Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current
scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Public Law 375--79th Congress

Chapter 248--2d Session

S. 1757

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Digest of Public Law 375 1

Index and Summary of History on S. 1757 2

DIGEST OF PUBLIC LAW 375

SURPLUS PROPERTY; VETERANS. S. 1757, to make veterans' priorities next to those of the Federal Government, to provide that certain personal property be set aside for veterans without regard to priorities, to provide for a time limit of not over 20 days within which the Government agencies must exercise their priorities, and to prohibit transfer of property between Government agencies, without reimbursement or transfer of funds, on authority of any law approved before June 22, 1944.

INDEX AND SUMMARY OF HISTORY ON S. 1757

December 12, 1945	Hearings: Senate, S. Res. 129. (A Resolution to investigate the disposal of surplus government property and related problems).
January 24, 1946	S. 1757 introduced by Senator Maybank and referred to the Senate Committee on Military Affairs. Print of the bill as introduced.
February 27, 1946	Hearings: Senate, S. Res. 129.
February 14, 1946	Hearings: House, H. R. 5329, 5517, and 4432.
March 27, 1946	Amendment to S. 1757 proposed by Senator O'Mahoney.
April 9, 1946	Senate Committee reported S. 1757 with amendments. Senate Report 1142. Print of the bill as reported.
	Letter to War Assets Administration from Sen. Wiley.
April 12, 1946	S. 1757 discussed in the Senate and passed as reported.
April 15, 1946	S. 1757 referred to the House Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments. Print of the bill as referred. Committee discharged.
April 16, 1946	H. R. 6157 introduced by Rep. Manasco and referred to the House Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments. Print of the bill as reported. (Companion bill).
April 17, 1946	House Committee reported H. R. 6157 without amendment. House Report 1954. Print of the bill as reported.
April 18, 1946	S. 1757 debated and passed House with an amendment substituting the language of H. R. 6157.
	Remarks of Rep. Johnson favoring H. R. 6157.
April 19, 1946	Senate agreed to House amendments to S. 1757.
May 3, 1946	Approved. Public Law 375.

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Legislative Reports and Service Section

79th-2nd, No. 9

DIGEST OF PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

(Issued January 25, 1946, for actions of Thursday, January 24, 1946)

(For staff of the Department only)

CONTENTS

Appropriations.....1,24
Clothing.....10
Coffee..... 8
Cotton..... 7
Dairy industry.....18
Economy..... 1
Employment.....6, 23
Farm program.....15
F.E.P.C..... 7
Food production....15,16,17
Forestry.....15
Housing.....5,21,25
Information..... 1
Labor.....3,7,23
Livestock and meats..... 3
Marketing.....15
Natural resources.....17
Personnel.....2,1,4
Presidential succession..11
Prices.....7,15
Property surplus.....5,12
Regional authority.....19
Relief, foreign.....20
Reports.....26,27
Research.....13
School-lunch program..... 2
Small business.....25
Social security.....14
Soil conservation.....15
Territories & possessions.17
Trade, foreign.....8,15
Veterans.....5,12,21,23
Water pollution.....22

HIGHLIGHTS: House Rules Committee cleared school-lunch bill. House passed independent offices appropriation bill; rejected Johnson (Ind.) amendment to make appropriations available at rate of 25% each quarter. Agreed to Sen. George's request to remove secrecy injunction on inter-American coffee protocol.

HOUSE

1. INDEPENDENT OFFICES APPROPRIATION BILL, 1947. Passed, 299-6, with amendment this bill, H. R. 5201 (pp. 363-86). Rejected, 152-177, after having agreed to it in Committee of the Whole, Rep. Taber's (N.Y.) amendment prohibiting use of Budget Bureau funds for the operation of a Government information service (pp. 367-9) and, 158-170, Rep. Johnson's (Ind.) amendment providing that appropriations in the executive departments and independent offices become available at the rate of 25% per quarter (pp. 379-83). Rejected, 145-175, Rep. Taber's (N.Y.) motion to recommit with instructions to report back with amendments reducing by 10% all appropriations for personnel in every item of the bill except those for the Veterans' Administration (pp. 384-5). Rep. Dworshak, Idaho, inserted a Washington Star article setting out Comptroller General Warren's five-point program for reducing Federal expenditures (p. 377).

2. SCHOOL-LUNCH PROGRAM. The Rules Committee reported a resolution for the consideration of H. R. 3370, the school-lunch bill (pp. 360, 388).

3. MEAT PACKERS; LABOR. Rep. May, Ky., announced a meeting of the Military Affairs Committee for today at 10:00 a.m. to determine the policy relative to passage of Army meat trucks through picket lines (p. 361).

4. PERSONNEL; LEAVE. Received CSC's proposed legislation to amend the act relative to payment for accumulated leave to Government employees on separation from the Federal service. To Civil Service Committee. (p. 388)

5. SURPLUS PROPERTY; HOUSING. Received a Calif. Legislature memorial favoring release of surplus housing materials in Calif. for construction of veterans'

housing (p. 388).

6. U.S.E.S. The Rules Committee reported a rule for consideration of H.R. 4437, to return public employment offices to State operation (p. 388).
Rep. Doyle, Calif., spoke favoring Federal control of the USES (p. 361).

SENATE

7. F.E.P.C. Continued debate on S. 101, the FEPC bill (pp. 327-30, 332-56). During the debate Sen. Bankhead, Ala., discussed the effect of the bill on farmers and farmers' cooperatives and inserted an American Farm Bureau Federation letter opposing the bill (p. 340); and Sens. McClellan (Ark.) and Maybank (S.C.) discussed farm labor and cotton prices (p. 349).

8. COFFEE IMPORTS. Agreed to Sen. George's (Ga.) request that the injunction of secrecy be removed from a protocol extending the inter-American coffee agreement to Oct. 1, 1946. The protocol and letters are printed in the record. (pp. 330-1.)

9. PERSONNEL. Sen. Byrd, Va., inserted a table showing Federal employment by departments and agencies for Oct. and Nov., 1945 (pp. 331-2).

10. CLOTHING SHORTAGE. Sen. Green, R. I., inserted a R.I. Legislature resolution favoring investigation of the clothing shortage (p. 332).

11. PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION. The Privileges and Elections Committee reported without amendment S. Con. Res. 50, to provide for a joint congressional committee to study the question of Presidential succession and election (S.Rept. 892)(p. 332).

BILLS INTRODUCED

12. SURPLUS PROPERTY; VETERANS. S. 1757, by Sen. Maybank, S.C., (for himself and Sens. O'Mahoney, Wyo., and Chavez, N.Mex.) to provide higher veterans' preference in the Surplus Property Act. To Military Affairs Committee. (p. 357.)

13. ATOMIC ENERGY. H.R. 5230, by Rep. Celler, N.Y., to develop, conserve, and regulate the use of atomic energy, to promote and encourage such uses as may serve the economic welfare of the Nation, to prohibit its private exploitation, and to outlaw the military use of such energy through international compact. To Military Affairs Committee. (p. 388.)

14. SOCIAL SECURITY. H.R. 5234, by Rep. Bolton, Ohio, to authorize the Federal Security Administrator to assist the States in matters relating to social protection. To Judiciary Committee. (p. 388.)

ITEMS IN APPENDIX

15. FARM PROGRAM. Sen. Smith, N.J., inserted his N.J. Farm Bureau Convention address in which he outlined a four-point farm program; high production at fair prices, increased efficiency of production and marketing, conservation of soil, water, and forests, and expansion of free-moving foreign trade (pp. A211-2).

16. FARM PRODUCTION. Rep. Eaton, N.J., inserted a farm-organization report showing farm production in N.J. during 1945 (p. A207).

17. HAWAII. Del. Farrington, Hawaii, inserted a Territories Committee report recommending statehood for Hawaii and including statistics on agricultural resources and production (pp. A213-16).

man's strongly urged suggestion that they alter their stand and accept his terms for settlement.

It is true that he is asking them to accept a grave responsibility.

The difference between the President's proposal and the corporation's best offer is 3½ cents an hour. That sounds small. But the union's demand is industry-wide. What Big Steel grants, some 800 other steel and iron companies, big and little, will be expected to grant. And 3½ cents an hour added to the pay rolls of the whole steel industry would mean a huge increase in labor costs.

Nor would that be all. Mr. Truman says his proposal is not intended to set a pattern for all industry. But it would set a pattern if accepted by United States Steel, for unione would regard it as precedent for settlement of wage demands on many other industries. We have no means of judging whether the inflationary effect on costs and prices would be as serious as President Fairless of United States Steel says, but unquestionably it would be great.

However, the effects of a steel strike could be worse.

Steel is our key industry. If the manufacture of steel stops, while management and labor fight a finish test of economic strength, manufacture of everything made of steel or iron—from locomotives, automobiles and refrigerators to bobby pins, paper clips, and thumb tacks—soon will stop. Hundreds of thousands of people, not directly interested in the strike, will lose their jobs.

This country can't achieve prosperity and full employment by closing down plants. It can't pay the war debt or defeat inflation by freezing industry. The only formula for high real wages and sound business profits is volume production. And a long steel strike could destroy all hope of getting production into high volume for many months, and perhaps forever. We've got the best chance now we're likely to have.

If the CIO union had turned down President Truman's proposal for avoiding a steel strike and its consequences, the union would be in the national doghouse. If United States Steel insists on turning down that proposal, we believe the corporation will put itself in bad with what Mr. Truman has termed the greatest pressure bloc of all—the American people.

Steel strike or no, we think the tidal wave a strikes now bringing this worst threat absolutely proves one thing. That is that government by men—even though the men are presidents of great unions, great corporations, and a great nation—has not solved and cannot solve the problem of labor-management relations.

For that we need government by law. We need a rule book, instead of the maneuvering and improvising and temporizing that takes us all to the edge of a cliff, and maybe sends us over. And it's the job of Congress to write the rules.

THE BATTLE OF RAPIDO RIVER, ITALY

Mr. O'DANIEL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I may submit a resolution without the Senator from Arkansas losing the floor.

Mr. McCLELLAN. with that understanding, I gladly yield.

Mr. O'DANIEL. Mr. President, yesterday I related to the Members of the Senate that a few brave men, remnants of the Thirty-sixth Division, in their meeting at Brownwood, Tex., petitioned Congress to conduct an investigation of the Rapido River "fiasco," as they call it. I made an attempt to submit the resolution yesterday, but there was objection heard to the unanimous-consent request I made. So at this time I ask unanimous consent to offer a resolution which would provide that the Military Affairs Committee of the Senate conduct an investigation which has been asked by the remnants of the Thirty-sixth Division.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the resolution will be received and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The resolution (S. Res. 218), submitted by Mr. O'DANIEL, was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, or any duly authorized subcommittee thereof, is authorized and directed to conduct a full and complete investigation with respect to the handling of the troops of the Twenty-sixth Division in connection with the battle of Rapido River, Italy, to determine the cause of the heavy casualties suffered by such division, and whether the action was brought about through military necessity or on account of pressure from a foreign government or governments. The committee shall report to the Senate at the earliest practicable date the results of its investigation, together with such recommendations as it may deem desirable.

For the purposes of this resolution, the committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee thereof, is authorized to hold such hearings, to sit and act at such times and places during the sessions, recesses, and adjourned periods of the Seventy-ninth Congress, to employ such clerical and other assistants, to require by subpena or otherwise the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such correspondence, books, papers, and documents, to administer such oaths, to take such testimony, and to make such expenditures, as it deems advisable. The cost of stenographic services to report such hearings shall not be in excess of 25 cents per hundred words. The expenses of the committee under this resolution, which shall not exceed $25,000, shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION—ADDRESS BY SENATOR SMITH

(At this point Mr. McCLELLAN, by unanimous consent, yielded to Mr. SMITH who asked and obtained leave to have printed in the RECORD an address entitled "National Agricultural Legislation," delivered by him in Trenton, N. J., January 21, 1946, at the twenty-seventh annual convention of the New Jerscy Farm Bureau, which appears in the Appendix.)

EFFECTIVE DATES OF RATINGS AND AWARDS UNDER VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION—BILL INTRODUCED

Mr. JOHNSON of Colorado. Mr. President, will the Senator from Arkansas yield?

Mr. McCLELLAN. I yield if I may do so without prejudice to my position.

Mr. JOHNSON of Colorado. I ask unanimous consent, without prejudice to the Senator, to introduce a bill to govern the effective dates of ratings in awards under the Veterans' Administration revised Schedule for Rating Disabilities, 1945, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the bill (S. 1756) to govern the effective dates of ratings and awards under the Veterans' Administration revised Schedule for Rating Disabilities, 1945, and for other purposes, introduced by Mr. JOHNSON of Colorado, was received, read twice by its title, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

VETERANS' PREFERENCE UNDER SURPLUS PROPERTY ACT—BILL INTRODUCED

Mr. MAYBANK. Mr. President, on behalf of the Senator from Wyoming [Mr. O'MAHONEY], the Senator from New Mexico [Mr. CHAVEZ], and myself, I ask unanimous consent to introduce a bill to be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

I also ask unanimous consent that a statement by the Senator from Wyoming [Mr. O'MAHONEY], and his correspondence with Mr. John W. Snyder, Director of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, be printed in the RECORD.

I ask that the bill be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the bill will be received and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and, without objection, the statement and correspondence referred to will be printed in the RECORD.

The bill (S. 1757) to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' preference provided for in the Surplus Property Act of 1944, introduced by Mr. MAYBANK (for himself, Mr. O'MAHONEY, and Mr. CHAVEZ) was received, read twice by its title, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The statement and correspondence presented by Mr. MAYBANK were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

BILL TO BROADEN VETERANS' PREFERENCE—STATEMENT BY SENATOR JOSEPH C. O'MAHONEY

An amendment to the Surplus Property Act designed to give veterans a preference second only to the Federal Government and to authorize the purchase of surplus for their own personal use will be introduced in the Senate on Monday, January 21, by Senator MAYBANK and myself. Speedy action may be expected upon this measure.

The problem of insufficient outlets which has been another source of dissatisfaction probably does not require legislation but can be handled through an energetic program for the sale of surplus materials on the spot where they have become surplus, provided the facilities and personnel of the owning agencies are employed to conduct sales to veterans and to other priority claimants.

I have today addressed a letter to War Mobilization Director John W. Snyder in which I have pointed out that, even though these three reforms were made effective immediately, the fact that insufficient quantities of suitable materials have been declared surplus to date will remain a serious source of dissatisfaction. In order to remedy this situation, I have called upon the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion to submit to the Surplus Property Subcommittee a program to assure that the largest possible quantities of those classes of civilian-type surplus which are most in demand by veterans, according to the Smaller War Plant Corporation's records, are immediately declared surplus and promptly put on sale to veterans.

It is my belief that the veterans preference under the Surplus Property Act, even after its rank has been raised and its scope has

been broadened, can be made effective only if an inventory is established and publicized of those types of surplus goods most in demand by veterans, including motor vehicles, household goods, farm, recreational and sports equipment, and if such surpluses are made available immediately to veterans.

A conference will be called by the Surplus Property Subcommittee to afford the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion and all other administrative agencies concerned an opportunity to lay before the subcommittee a program for the effective carrying out of a broadened veterans preference under the Surplus Property Act.

JANUARY 19, 1946.

Mr. JOHN W. SNYDER,
Director, Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. SNYDER: It appears to me to be of great importance to achieve the closest possible cooperation between the Congress and the executive branch for the purpose of making effective immediately the promise of preference to veterans contained in the Surplus Property Act. Testimony received by the Surplus Property Subcommittee indicates that there are at least four factors which cause dissatisfaction with the way in which surplus disposal to veterans is presently being handled:

1. The present veterans' preference ranks below the priorities granted to Federal Government agencies, State and local governments;

2. The present veterans' preference does not extend to surplus commodities desired by veterans for their own personal use;

3. Civilian-type surplus property generally desired by veterans is not available in sufficient quantities to satisfy existing demand; and

4. Sufficient outlets are not available to handle expeditiously the distribution of such surplus commodities to veterans.

Of these barriers the first and second can be easily changed by law, and they were included in a bill drafted by the Counsel to the Surplus Property Subcommittee. This draft bill, as you know, during the past several weeks has been the subject of conferences with various Government agencies concerned, including your office. The fourth hurdle—insufficient outlets—probably does not require legislation but can be handled through an energetic program for the sale of surplus materials on the spot where they have become surplus, provided the facilities and personnel of the owning agencies are employed to conduct sales to veterans and to other priority claimants.

Senator MAYBANK and I will on Monday introduce a bill to remove the first two obstacles above listed, namely, the inferior priority for veterans now provided by law, and the limitation by which that preference is restricted to purchases for business, professional, or agricultural use. Speedy action may be expected upon this measure.

Even though these three reforms were made effective immediately, there would still be a serious source of dissatisfaction if the third barrier is not removed, namely, the lack of sufficient quantities of suitable surplus materials at given locations to satisfy existing demand. Several weeks ago in conference with Secretary Patterson and Under Secretary Royall of the War Department I suggested the desirability of the immediate establishment of an inventory of specific classes of civilian-type surplus property including motor vehicles, household goods, farm, recreational and sports equipment, the existence of which could be publicized throughout the country and which could be made immediately available for disposal to the veterans. This inventory should also include small boats now owned by the Maritime Commission and the Navy Department, which would be available for use by veterans, particularly as fishing and charter boats.

I understand that the Smaller War Plants Corporation is preparing a list of the classes of surplus in demand by veterans and that on the basis of this list your office will undertake to work out in conjunction with all agencies concerned a program to secure immediate surplus declarations and promote sales of the property so listed. I have today consulted Under Secretary Royall who, I understand, is entirely willing that an immediate survey shall be made of the specific quantities of civilian-type property which could be included in such an inventory. Such survey should be made by all owning agencies.

Whether it is desirable to require such an inventory to be established by executive action or by an additional amendment to the Surplus Property Act is to be the subject of further discussions by the Surplus Property Subcommittee with all of the Government agencies concerned. It is my hope that at that conference you will be able to present on behalf of the executive branch of the Government a program to make a broadened veterans' preference effective.

Sincerely yours,

JOSEPH C. O'MAHONEY,
Chairman, Surplus Property Subcommittee.

SUSPENSION OF IMMIGRATION FOR 5 YEARS—BILL INTRODUCED

Mr. MAYBANK. Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent to introduce for appropriate reference a bill to suspend immigration for a period of 5 years.

There being no objection, the bill (S. 1758) to suspend immigration for a period of 5 years, was received, read twice by its title, and referred to the Committee on Immigration.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session,

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations, which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(For nominations this day received, see the end of Senate proceedings.)

RECESS

Mr. CHAVEZ. Mr. President, without interfering with the rights of the Senator from Arkansas, I wish at this time to move for a recess until 12 o'clock tomorrow.

Mr. MORSE. Mr. President, will the Senator yield before he makes his motion?

Mr. McCLELLAN. I believe I still have the floor. I yield if it will not prejudice my position.

Mr. MORSE. Mr. President, I simply desire to say to the Senator from New Mexico before he makes the motion to recess, that I think it should be understood clearly that there is, may I say a general understanding apparently among a majority of the Members of the Senate, with respect to this filibuster, that when 6 o'clock comes the Senate will recess. I want to register my protest against that procedure, Mr. President, because I feel that the Senate should make up its mind to do everything that can be done to break the filibuster. We cannot break it by keeping in session just during banking hours. We should either try to break it, in my judgment, by a sincere and good faith attempt on the part of those of us who believe that this filibuster is a great mistake because it denies the majority in the Senate of the United States the right to proceed to vote on the FEPC bill including the many amendments which I think, as I said earlier today, should be made to the bill, or we ought to stop the type of farce which in my judgment we are now proceeding with when we seek to give the impression that we really are trying to stop the filibuster although we recess every afternoon at 6 o'clock or earlier. I simply want the RECORD to show that I will never vote for a recess so long as this filibuster is going on, and I desire to say to those who vote for a recess that I think it ought to be perfectly clear to everyone that they will never be able to have the merits of the bill voted on by adopting a practice of recessing each day at 6 o'clock. A filibuster is many things. For one thing, it is an endurance contest. Continuous sessions may not break this one, but they would make the issue perfectly clear to the public, namely, that Senators will fight to establish majority rule in the Senate of the United States.

Mr. CHAVEZ. Mr. President, will the Senator from Arkansas yield to me?

Mr. McCLELLAN. I yield.

Mr. CHAVEZ. I fully appreciate the remarks of the Senator from Oregon and agree with him. But I have great faith in human nature. I think those who are against the bill or who are now discussing many matters, some entirely outside the bill, should be given an opportunity to get a little rest now and then. Their minds might be changed by treating them with kindness. I agree with the Senator from Oregon that the filibuster should be broken, but I hope the Senator will not press his protest at this particular time.

I renew my motion that the Senate now recess until 12 o'clock noon tomorrow.

Mr. MORSE. Mr. President, will the Senator from Arkansas yield to me to make a brief reply to the Senator from New Mexico?

Mr. McCLELLAN. I yield for that purpose.

Mr. MORSE. The Senator from New Mexico has expressed the hope that I not press my protest at this time. The only protest I could make, resulting in floor action, would be to suggest the absence of a quorum. However, I want the RECORD to show that that would be, in my judgment, a useless procedure, because I know what would happen if there were a call for a quorum. I would be outvoted on the recess issue. I say that because it is my understanding that it is the intention of the majority of the Members of the Senate to take recesses at this time of day. I simply want the RECORD to show my protest at that method of attempting to break a filibuster. I shall never be a party to it.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion of the Senator from New Mexico [Mr. CHAVEZ] that the Senate take a recess.

The motion was agreed to; and (at 6 o'clock and 13 minutes p. m.) the Senate took a recess until tomorrow, Friday, January 25, 1946, at 12 o'clock meridian.

79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1757

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 24 (legislative day, JANUARY 18), 1946

Mr. MAYBANK (for himself, Mr. O'MAHONEY, and Mr. CHAVEZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs

A BILL

To broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' preference provided for in the Surplus Property Act of 1944.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subsection (f) of section 13 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "and disposals under section 16".

SEC. 2. Section 16 thereof is hereby amended to read as follows:

"DISPOSAL TO VETERANS

"SEC. 16. The Administrator shall prescribe regulations permitting veterans to acquire appropriate amounts of surplus property for their own use or to enable them to establish

and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises, and dispositions of surplus property to veterans under this section shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this Act, except transfers to Government agencies under section 12."

79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1757

A BILL

To broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' preference provided for in the Surplus Property Act of 1944.

By Mr. MAYBANK, Mr. O'MAHONEY, and Mr. CHAVEZ

JANUARY 24 (legislative day, JANUARY 18), 1946
Read twice and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs

May.
27.

79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1757

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 27 (legislative day, MARCH 5), 1946

Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed

AMENDMENT

(IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE)

Intended to be proposed by Mr. O'MAHONEY (for himself and Mr. MAYBANK) to the bill (S. 1757) to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' preference provided for in the Surplus Property Act of 1944, viz: Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

That section 16 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is hereby amended by renumbering section 16 as section 16 (a) and adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 12 and 13 of this Act, the Administrator may cause to be set aside or otherwise to be made available, for such period or periods of time as he may determine, appropriate quantities of surplus

3-27-46——F

property suitable for exclusive disposal to veterans for their own personal use or to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional or agricultural enterprises. The Administrator shall prepare regulations designed to achieve the equitable distribution of such surplus property among veterans. In selecting any types of surplus property for disposal in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, the Administrator shall give due consideration to the availability of adequate facilities for and the cost of the distribution of such surplus property. The Administrator shall from time to time cause to be compiled and publicized widely information as to the types and quantities of such surplus property which has or will become available within a given period of time for exclusive disposal to veterans in accordance with the provisions of this subsection."

79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1757

AMENDMENT

(IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE)

Intended to be proposed by Mr. O'MAHONEY (for himself and Mr. MAYBANK) to the bill (S. 1757) to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' preference provided for in the Surplus Property Act of 1944.

MARCH 27 (legislative day, MARCH 5), 1946
Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed

12. NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION. The Military Affairs Committee reported without amendment S. 1850, to establish a National Science Foundation with divisions of Mathematical and Physical, Biological, Social, Health and Medical Sciences; Divisions of National Defense, Engineering and Technology, Publications and Information; three other divisions determined by the Administrator; and authority to support, either in whole or in part, research and development by governmental agencies or other organizations, such activities to be supplementary to other Government research (S. Rept. 1136) (p. 3389).

13. SURPLUS PROPERTY. The Military Affairs Committee reported with amendments S. 1357, to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' preference provided for in the Surplus Property Act, 1944 (S. Rept. 1142) (p. 3389).

Sen. Wiley, Wis., inserted his letter to the War Assets Corp., requesting information on the disposition of surplus property to veterans (pp. 3390-1).

14. SURPLUS AGRICULTURAL PLANTS. Received from this Department a report pursuant to S. Res. 176, on the advisability of continuing the operation of all Federally owned plants and facilities which were used during the war for the exclusive processing of agricultural commodities and forest products or for manufacturing nitrates for fertilizer (S. Doc. 167) (p. 3388).

15. SMALLER WAR PLANTS CORPORATION. Received from the CPA the 22nd bimonthly report of this corporation, Dec. 1945 and Jan. 1946 (p. 3388).

16. WHEAT ORDER. Sen. Capper, Kans., inserted a constituent's letter opposing the proposed order to limit bakers to a small quota of flour (p. 3388).

BILLS INTRODUCED

17. UNIFICATION OF ARMED FORCES. S. 2044, by Sen. Thomas, Utah, for himself and Sens. Hill, Ala., and Austin, Vt., to promote the common defense by unifying the departments and agencies of the Government relating to the common defense. To Military Affairs Committee. (p. 3390.)

18. LOANS; VETERANS. S. 2047, by Sen. Johnson, Colo., to amend sec. 500(d) of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, so as to include certain mortgage loan companies as lenders. To Finance Committee. (p. 3390.)

ITEMS IN APPENDIX

19. WHEAT; FLOUR. Speech in the House by Rep. Jenkins, Ohio, expressing his opinion that it would be well for the Department to reconsider its proposed order for a 25% reduction in wheat flour alloted to bakeries, or at least hold it in abeyance for a few days, and including his letter to the Secretary stating his position (pp. A2133-4).

20. PRICE CONTROL. Rep. Buck, N. Y., inserted a New York Times editorial suggesting amendments to the Price Control Act (p. A2139).

Rep. Woodhouse, Conn., inserted a brief analysis of letters dealing with the extension of price control showing that they were 9 to 1 in favor of the extension (pp. A2144-5).

Rep. White, Idaho, inserted his letter to Mr. J. H. Eby (Wash.) favoring the extension of price control and criticizing Forest Service conservation policies (pp. A2134-5).

21. SURPLUS PROPERTY. Extension of remarks of Rep. Schwabe, Okla., criticizing the disposition of surplus property to foreign purchasers instead of vetrans (p. A2141).

22. FARM CREDIT. Extension of remarks of Rep. Vursell, Ill., favoring the Cooley bill, H. R. 5991 (p. A2145).

23. FARM LABOR; FARM PRODUCTION. Extension of remarks of Rep. Weichel, Ohio, criticizing the drafting of farm workers and increasing of rentals on federally owned farm lands as "hobbling food production" (p. A2154).

oOo

COMMITTEE-HEARINGS ANNOUNCEMENTS for Apr. 10: S. Education and Labor, national health bill; S. Interstate Commerce, the Bulwinkle transportation bill; S. Agriculture, meat situation; H. Education, vocational education; H. Flood Control, floo control bill; H. Foreign Affairs, cultural relations bill (ex.); H. Rivers and Harbors, pollution bills (ex.); H. Ways and Means, social security.

oOo

For supplemental information and copies of legislative material referred to, call Ext. 4654, or send to Room 113 Adm. Arrangements may be made to be kept advised, routinely, of developments on any particular bill.

-oOo-

S. 1592, which provide for a long-range housing program. I ask unanimous consent to present the letter for appropriate reference and printing in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the letter was received, ordered to lie on the table, and to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NATIONAL WOMEN'S TRADE UNION LEAGUE OF AMERICA,
Washington, D. C., April 5, 1946.

DEAR SENATOR CAPPER: The National Women's Trade Union League, with an individual and affiliated membership of over a million persons, respectfully urges your favorable support of the housing bill for veterans, H. R. 4761, when this bill comes to the Senate floor for action. At the same time we urge your favorable vote for S. 1592, for a long-range housing program. Both bills, we feel, are emergency legislation and both rank equally in importance.

The membership of our organization is realistic about the acute housing shortage and is aware that this condition has existed for many years and that the time has finally come for action by Congress now. Many of our members have come to grips with the zero in vacancies and have petitioned us to urge upon the Senate to take favorable action now so that the housing legislation can be translated into action, to provide healthful living quarters for every American family and at rentals which they can afford to pay.

We have faith that you will give your support for the immediate passage of both bills.

Sincerely yours,

ELISABETH CHRISTMAN,
Secretary-Treasurer.
Mrs. J. AUSTIN STONE,
Legislative Chairman.

GOVERNMENT FORMS—LETTER FROM LAWRENCE W. PRAKKEN

Mr. VANDENBERG. Mr. President, I am interrupting the current business only long enough to share with the Senate a letter I received this morning which would be amusing if it did not point a moral to adorn a rather dismal and discouraging tale. This letter is from Lawrence W. Prakken, the publisher of a small trade paper in Ann Arbor, Mich., known as School Shop, and identified as "the magazine for industrial education teachers." The letter, addressed to me, reads as follows:

Enclosed is a document called United States Standard Form 33 (Revised), calling for an invitation, bid, and acceptance for one subscription to School Shop magazine. The forms weigh 11½ ounces and consist of exactly 100 pages. After spending considerable time determining just what the War Department wished and the general provisions and conditions of the request, we finally determined that the 100 pages were sent to us so we could tell the War Department the price of a 1-year subscription to School Shop.

I exhibit the file which seems to be standard practice in this connection. By the way, I call attention to the fact that it is labeled "Short form contract"; in other words, this is not to be taken as a full measure of what bureaucracy could do if it really tried.

I now continue reading the letter:

The man-hours involved in our seeking to find out what the War Department wanted were considerable. However, what appalls me is the amount of time and material which the War Department expended in securing information which is available from any magazine subscription agency catalog. Or it could have been obtained directly from the publisher by a postal-card request.

If all this monkey business is required because of statutory provision, the statutes certainly ought to be changed. If it is due to the War Department's own procurement policies those policies certainly should be changed. The waste of time and materials is particularly obnoxious to a small publisher who is asked to pay high taxes to support such War Department circumlocutions and is having difficulty finding paper on which to print his own publications.

I think all of us can share the feelings of Mr. Prakken when he found himself bombarded with this file.

I do not know whether he has correctly interpreted this ponderous file which he received from the War Department, but it certainly represents some sort of magnificent waste of time, effort, money, and material.

I ask that the letter and its accompanying tonnage be referred to the Joint Committee on Nonessential Federal Expenditures.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HART, from the Committee on Commerce:

H. R. 4940. A bill granting the consent of Congress to the State of Connecticut, acting by and through any agency or commission thereof, to construct, maintain, and operate a toll bridge across the Connecticut River at or near Old Saybrook, Conn.; without amendment (Rept. No. 1133).

By Mr. OVERTON, from the Committee on Commerce:

H. R. 4190. A bill granting the consent of Congress to the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. to construct, maintain, and operate a railroad bridge across the Allegheny River at or near Warren, Pa.; without amendment (Rept. No. 1138);

H. R. 4914. A bill to revive and reenact the act entitled "An act creating the City of Clinton Bridge Commission and authorizing said commission and its successors to acquire by purchase or condemnation and to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge or bridges across the Mississippi River at or near Clinton, Iowa, and at or near Fulton, Ill.," approved December 21, 1944; without amendment (Rept. No. 1139);

H. R. 5275. A bill to revive and reenact the act granting the consent of Congress to the State highway department of South Carolina to construct, maintain, and operate a free highway bridge across the Pee Dee River, at or near Cashua Ferry, S. C., approved April 30, 1940; without amendment (Rept. No. 1140); and

H. R. 5544. A bill authorizing the village of Baudette, State of Minnesota, its public successors or public assigns, to construct, maintain, and operate a toll bridge across the Rainy River at or near Baudette, Minn.; without amendment (Rept. No. 1141).

By Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina, from the Committee on Claims:

H. R. 1073. A bill for the relief of Mrs. Gertfude Verbarg; without amendment (Rept. No. 1134).

By Mr. O'DANIEL, from the Committee on Claims:

H. R. 5664. A bill for the relief of Oscar R. Steinert; without amendment (Rept. No. 1135).

By Mr. THOMAS of Utah, from the Committee on Military Affairs:

S. 1850. A bill to promote the progress of science and the useful arts, to secure the national defense, to advance the national health and welfare, and for other purposes; without amendment (Rept. No. 1136); and

S. 1963. A bill to authorize additional permanent professors of the United States Military Academy; without amendment (Rept. No. 1137).

By Mr. O'MAHONEY, from the Committee on Military Affairs:

S. 1757. A bill to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' preference provided for in the Surplus Property Act of 1944; with amendments (Rept. No. 1142).

PERSONS EMPLOYED BY COMMITTEES WHO ARE NOT FULL-TIME SENATE OR COMMITTEE EMPLOYEES

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate a report for the month of March 1946, from the chairman of a certain committee, in response to Senate Resolution 319 (78th Cong.), relative to persons employed by committees who are not full-time employees of the Senate or any committee thereof, which was ordered to lie on the table and to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

APPROPRIATIONS

APRIL 4, 1946.

To the Senate:

The above-mentioned committee hereby submits the following report showing the name of persons employed by the committee who are not full-time employees of the Senate or of the committee for the month of March 1946, in compliance with the terms of Senate Resolution 319, agreed to August 23, 1944:

Name of individual	Address	Name and address of department or organization by whom paid	Annual rate of compensation
Mrs. Mamie L. Mizen	1434 Saratoga Ave	District of Columbia government	$3,970

KENNETH MCKELLAR, *Acting Chairman.*

which through the long years enriched the civilization of the world.

In the eastern countries, principally in Poland and the Baltic States, the Jews developed a religious civilization far different from the native culture. They developed a way of life which was essentially their own. Despite poverty and oppression, it was rich in ethical significance, colorful in expression, and always intense. Scholarship was always accorded first priority in Jewish life in east Europe, and great academies of learning were built from which were graduated men of renown. Seminaries poured forth religious leaders who carried to Jewish communities all over the world spiritual inspiration and guidance. Jewish music was scored, a Jewish literature flowered, Jewish art and drama reached great heights. The foundation of this civilization was religious in character but it extended into secular fields as well. This religious civilization enriched not only the Jews of the world, but played an important part in the enhancement of human thought everywhere. Almost unnoted by the rest of mankind, this well-spring of cultural activity fed rivulets that flowed into the stream of life of the western nations.

The Jews of east Europe flourished in this way despite an environment which was essentially unfriendly. They have never really lived at peace. They have always been haunted by fear of the pogrom, of sudden death, and the slaughter of the innocent. They have always longed for a place or a time in which they would be free of this mortal fear.

5. With the coming of Hitler, anti-Semitism became an instrument of national policy. As one means of creating his totalitarian State, Hitler utilized that evil weapon to suppress dissent, to terrorize and eliminate the opposition of other nonconformist elements, to divide the democratic world, and create conditions favorable to his aggressive plans.

Hitler's first victims were the German Jews, because they were at hand. Starting with nonviolent forms of oppression, their persecution soon moved to brutal and sadistic forms of murder, forced labor, and mass starvation. But the German plan was never limited to the destruction of German Jewry; it always contemplated the elimination of the Jews in Europe and, indeed, in the world. It was not until the brute mass of the German Army moved eastward that Teutonic savagry reached its height. Upon the Jews of eastern Europe was loosed a plan of extermination so diabolical that it is impossible for a civilized mind to grasp. Never has the world seen such horror; never have a people undergone such torture. The infamous details have been spread upon the records of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg, and need not be repeated here. So ruthless was this campaign, so furious was its execution that some 6,000,000 Jews fell martyred by the Nazis. Today, no more than 1,250,000 Jews live in Europe east of the English Channel and west of the prewar borders of Russia, and the east European Jews are but a portion of that number.

6. The Jews who are today provisionally in Germany and Austria are small in numbers; approximately 100,000 of them are living in all zones of those countries; family life is practically unknown among them—the members of their families are dead; they are destitute—the Germans stripped them of everything; a child is a rare treasure among them—extermination of the young was a Nazi priority; they suffer from psychological and physical ills as a result of life in the concentration camps and the experiences they have endured. Their civilization, so laboriously created over the centuries has been brought low; its leadership is dead; its institutions—economic, social, religious, and scholarly—are demolished.

The one thing that Hitler failed to take from these people was their spirit. That is today burning brightly and steadily in the wastelands of Germany and Austria. Its indestructible quality has kept alive in them the germinating seeds of their civilization. That is why this small group represents a people—the remnant of Polish and Baltic Jewry—the growing tip of its future.

That spirit and the culture it represents have drawn together the Jews in Germany and Austria, and have provided them with a program for the present and a plan for the future. Many of the Jews who are today living in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, and Hungary are baffled and perplexed, insecure in the present, fearful of the future; not so the Jews in Germany and Austria. They know what they want; they want to quit Europe; they want to live together, not dispersed among a population that regards them as aliens; they desire to live in the pattern of their own historic culture; they visualize the realization of their desires in Palestine. It is a strange phenomenon that the Jewish displaced persons in Germany and Austria, because they have a policy and a program, have emerged as the vanguard of east European Jewry.

7. These considerations may seem irrelevant to the Army's task, but, indeed, they are crucially germane. They supply the clue to the sense of excitement one experiences in the Jewish displaced-persons centers—the high pitch of the publications, the mass meetings, the demonstrations, the petitions, and the general atmosphere of political fervor—in sharp contrast to the relative quietude in the other displaced-persons centers. They provide the reason for the Jewish displaced persons' impatience with measures that given an atmosphere of permanency to their enforced residence in Germany, and their reluctance to do anything that appears to integrate them with the German population.

And these considerations help explain why the Jewish population in the United States zone is increasing, whereas that of other displaced persons' groups is decreasing. Returning from the concentration camps, from the forests in which they fought as partisans, demobilized from the national armies in which they battled on the side of the Allies, coming from the places in which they hid from the Nazis, the Jews in the east European countries find themselves unwelcome in the lands of their origin. They discover that anti-Semitism did not vanish with the defeat of the Nazis. Indigenous, popular anti-Semitism flourishes and creates a climate of hostility on the part of the native populations against the Jews. In Poland they have been the victims of terroristic activity and there is evidence that the Government, despite its sincere efforts, cannot effectively protect them even against the more extreme forms of anti-Semitism. Moreover, the countries of their origin are to these Jews places of sadness and despair. On their return to their homes, they find no trace of their families; their friends and their old associations are gone. They find it impossble to take up normal living in a graveyard of memories. Consequently, they have taken to the road in search of new places, free of prejudice and bias, in which they can settle and be at peace. Unlike other displaced persons, they do not linger in or come into Germany because they find a particular political regime distasteful or because economic conditions are bad at home. No matter what the political or economic situation in their former homes, life there for them is impossible. They are in fact homelcss through no choice of their own and cannot be repatriated.

8. A study of the flow lines of east European Jewry shows a constant and unvarying convergence upon the United States zones of Germany and Austria. This movement is primarily an expression of faith in the United States which has always afforded asylum for the unfortunate. That is one of our great national assets, which has in the past paid rich dividends. The Army has thus far viewed with sympathetic understanding the plight of the Jews seeking asylum in the United States zone. A continuation of that policy is strongly urged. Its abandonment or limitation will constitute a denial of the humanitarian impulses whch should motivate the military in this connection. The numbers coming in, compared with the population of the zone, are relatively trivial; they constitute a very small charge upon the economy of the area. To forbid these persecutees entry on the basis of any statistical study of absorptive capacity, which must at best constitute a rough guess, is to elevate form over substance in the face of human tragedy and suffering. It would be deplorable were our reputation of affording refuge for the unfortunate, thus far treasured and preserved by the military statesmen in charge of our affairs in Europe, now to be dissipated.

The Jews coming into Germany seek here a provisional place of refuge that will serve as a staging and rehabilitation area for migration. The fact that they are seeking this haven in Germany is profoundly just. Their present lamentable condition is the result of German barbarism. In the process of exterminating millions of Jews, the German economy was enriched beyond measure. The fortunes of those who died as well as those who escaped are today being enjoyed by their persecutors. Where 600,000 Jews lived in Germany before Hitler, only a fraction of that number seek to sojourn now. Have these Jews not a claim upon the available habitations which is prior to that of the Germans? Have they not a claim against Germany's resources of food and clothing which takes precedence over that of the Germans? Are not the Jewish displaced persons eternally right when they say, "The Germans are our debtors," albeit they are not in a position to enforce reparations for the wanton destruction of their kin, their property, or the free labor they were compelled to perform?

Viewed in this light, the question whether the presence of the Jews constitutes too heavy a burden upon the German economy becomes irrelevant. Their claim is second only to that of the occupation forces. If the result is that some must live by the grace of charity and the standard which charity implies, it should be the guilty ones, not the victims. Simple justice dictates that these Jews be received and permitted to remain in Germany for a brief period until the world allows them to go where they can live in dignity and security.

9. Jewry's surviving remnant in Europe has no material claim against the United States or its people beyond the broad humanitarian claim that all persecuted groups have upon free men. These Jews recognize that they are already immensely in debt to the United States. But as Hitler's victims who lost the war, they look to their brothers-in-arms who won it, to enforce for them some small portion of their claim on Germany. They object to American food given to them as an act of grace. They prefer German food delivered to them as of right. They resent living in barracks while the Germans live in civilian homes. They wonder at our lack of comprehension when they are tendered the cast-off clothing collected in American salvage drives, instead of the new production of German factories. We must recognize that insofar as we fail to require the Germans to satisfy the needs of these Jews and satisfy them ourselves, we are discharging a portion of the debt owed by Germany. It would, it seems to me, be preferable, certainly from the moral point of view, to insist that Germany discharge that obligation in the first instance though this cause some discomfort to the German population.

Calendar No. 1158

79TH CONGRESS, 2d Session | SENATE | REPORT No. 1142

VETERANS' PRIORITY FOR SURPLUS PROPERTY

APRIL 9 (legislative day, MARCH 5), 1946.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. O'MAHONEY, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1757]

Your committee to whom was referred the bill (S. 1757), and an amendment thereto, to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' preference, provided for in the Surplus Property Act of 1944, having considered the same, unanimously report favorably the bill S. 1757, with amendments and recommend passage of the bill, as amended.

The principal objectives of the committee amendments are:

1. To extend to veterans a priority for the purchase of surplus property second only to transfers to Federal Government agencies, and to change accordingly the rank of the priorities extended to small business concerns and to States and their political subdivisions and instrumentalities.

2. To set aside selected types of surplus property particularly in demand by veterans for exclusive distribution to them for their personal use or for their business, agricultural, or professional enterprises.

Your committee, through its Subcommittee on Surplus Property Disposal, held extensive hearings and several informal conferences in the course of which the views were ascertained of veterans' organizations, Government departments, and others interested in the problems of surplus property distribution.

As the result of this intensive study of the role of the veteran in the disposal of surplus property, your committee has come to the conclusion that while much can be accomplished with respect to making the veterans' priority effective by improving established disposal organizations and modifying administrative procedures, certain changes should be made in the Surplus Property Act.

Congress, in enacting the Surplus Property Act, was determined to extend to veterans an effective priority in the disposal of surplus property. However, it has become apparent that the present veterans' preference does not have a rank sufficiently high or a scope

sufficiently broad to satisfy the justifiable demands of veterans. The Surplus Property Act at present does not permit veterans to acquire surplus property for their own personal uses, and the veterans' preference is out-ranked by the priority extended to Federal Government agencies, small business concerns, and States and their political subdivisions and instrumentalities. In many instances, therefore, the provisions of the law do not extend a suitable priority to veterans or else they result in a depletion of surplus property in short supply through sales to other priority claimants.

This is regrettable, not only from the point of view of the individual veteran who is thus prevented from acquiring surplus property that he desires, but it is also against the public interest to keep out of the hands of veterans the technical equipment with which they have won victory. To a considerable extent victory was speeded because of the technical skill with which our men and women in the armed forces handled automotive, aeronautical, or electronic equipment, to name only a few of the classes of goods which are now surplus. It is in the best interest of the Nation that our veterans keep alive the skills and that we enable them to acquire the equipment which they desire.

The hearings on the bill brought out the fact that the great bulk of usable surplus property such as plants, facilities, and heavy equipment are not of interest to veterans. It can be and has been established with some degree of certainty what individual veterans desire from the surplus pile. Lists of the types of surplus property most in demand by veterans were submitted to the subcommittee in the course of the hearings. The committee amendment, therefore, calls for an inventory of surplus property which shall be made available for exclusive disposal to veterans and which can be disposed of to them without necessitating retail services on the part of the War Assets Administration.

The committee amendment still continues the general first priority extended to Government agencies. It should be noted that the purpose of this priority is to save the Government money where one Government agency has surplus equipment which another Government agency requires for the discharge of its responsibilities. If the veterans' preference were advanced to outrank the Federal Government priority, the Federal Government might be compelled in many instances to purchase in the open market the same or similar goods as those which were disposed of as surplus by the War Assets Administration.

In order thus to extend an effective priority to veterans in the acquisition of surplus property, your committee recommends passage of S. 1757, as amended.

EXPLANATION OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Section 1 of the committee amendment would amend section 16 of the Surplus Property Act, as amended, by extending to veterans a priority second only in rank to the priority extended to Federal Government agencies. At present, veterans are outranked by the priority extended to Federal Government agencies and to States and their political subdivisions and instrumentalities.

The committee amendment would further add to section 16 a new subsection (b) which would direct the War Assets Administrator to

set aside for exclusive disposal to veterans for their own personal use or for their small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises, appropriate types and quantities of surplus property.

This provision in effect would give veterans first priority with respect to surplus goods thus set aside for exclusive disposal to them. Secondly, it would permit the acquisition by veterans for their own personal use of the surplus property thus set aside.

The War Assets Administrator is directed to establish and publicize inventories from time to time of the types and quantities of surplus property which has or will become available for exclusive disposal to veterans. Surplus property to be made available for exclusive disposal to veterans is to be of such type as will make possible disposal without compelling War Assets Administration to establish retail stores. Regulations to be prescribed by the War Assets Administrator are to assure equitable distribution of such surplus property among veterans.

Section 2 of the committee amendment would amend section 12 of the Surplus Property Act by providing that the setting aside of appropriate quantities of surplus property for exclusive disposal to veterans under section 16 (b) shall be given priority over transfers of such surplus property to Federal Government agencies.

Section 3 of the amendment would amend subsection (f) of section 13 to provide that priorities to States and their political subdivisions and instrumentalities would follow disposals to veterans under section 16 and to small business concerns under section 18 (e).

Section 4 of the amendment would amend subsection (e) of section 18 by providing that disposals to small business concerns through the medium of Smaller War Plants Corporation (now Reconstruction Finance Corporation) shall follow transfers to Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16.

In other words, the proposed amendment would establish the following order of rank for the priorities extended under the Surplus Property Act:

First special priority.—Veterans for their own personal uses or for their professional, agricultural, or small business enterprises with respect to selected types of surplus property set aside for exclusive disposal to veterans (sec. 16 (b)).

First general priority.—Transfer to Federal Government agencies (sec. 12).

Second general priority.—Veterans for their professional, agricultural, or small business enterprises (sec. 16 (a)).

Third general priority.—Small business through the medium of purchases by Reconstruction Finance Corporation (previously Smaller War Plants Corporation) (sec. 18 (e)).

Fourth general priority.—States and their political subdivisions and instrumentalities (sec. 13 (f)).

The text of the amendment, as proposed by your committee, reads as follows:

That section 16 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"DISPOSAL TO VETERANS

"SEC. 16. (a) The Administrator shall prescribe regulations permitting veterans to acquire appropriate quantities of surplus property to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises,

and dispositions of surplus property to veterans under this section shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this Act, except transfers to Government agencies under section 12.

"(b) The Administrator shall cause to be set aside or otherwise to be made available, for such period or periods of time as he may determine, appropriate types and quantities of surplus property for exclusive disposal to veterans for their own personal use or to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. The Administrator shall prepare regulations designed to achieve the equitable distribution of such surplus property among veterans. In selecting any types of surplus property for disposal in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, the Administrator shall give due consideration to the availability of adequate facilities for and the cost of the distribution of such surplus property. The Administrator shall from time to time cause to be compiled and publicized widely information as to the types and quantities of such surplus property which has or will become available within a given period of time for exclusive disposal to veterans in accordance with the provisions of this subsection."

SEC. 2. Subsection (a) of section 12 thereof is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "except disposals under section 16 (b)".

SEC. 3. Subsection (f) of section 13 thereof is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "and disposals under section 16 and subsection (e) of section 18".

SEC. 4. The last sentence of subsection (e) of section 18 thereof is hereby amended to read as follows: "The disposal of surplus property under this subsection shall be given priority immediately following transfers to other Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16. The provisions of subsection (c) of section 12 shall be applicable to purchases made under this subsection."

Amend the title so as to read:

A bill to amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944, as amended, so as to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' priority.

O

Calendar No. 1158

79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1757

[Report No. 1142]

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 24 (legislative day, JANUARY 18), 1946

Mr. MAYBANK (for himself, Mr. O'MAHONEY, and Mr. CHAVEZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs

APRIL 9 (legislative day, MARCH 5), 1946

Reported by Mr. O'MAHONEY, with amendments

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' preference provided for in the Surplus Property Act of 1944.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled. ~~That subsection (f) of section 13 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "and disposals under section 16".~~

~~SEC. 2. Section 16 thereof is hereby amended to read as follows:~~

~~"DISPOSAL TO VETERANS~~

~~"SEC. 16. The Administrator shall prescribe regulations~~

~~permitting veterans to acquire appropriate amounts of surplus property for their own use or to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises, and dispositions of surplus property to veterans under this section shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this Act, except transfers to Government agencies under section 12.~~"

That section 16 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"*DISPOSAL TO VETERANS*

"*SEC. 16. (a) The Administrator shall prescribe regulations permitting veterans to acquire appropriate quantities of surplus property to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises, and dispositions of surplus property to veterans under this section shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this Act, except transfers to Government agencies under section 12.*

"*(b) The Administrator shall cause to be set aside or otherwise to be made available, for such period or periods of time as he may determine, appropriate types and quantities of surplus property for exclusive disposal to veterans for their own personal use or to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enter-*

prises. The Administrator shall prepare regulations designed to achieve the equitable distribution of such surplus property among veterans. In selecting any types of surplus property for disposal in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, the Administrator shall give due consideration to the availability of adequate facilities for and the cost of the distribution of such surplus property. The Administrator shall from time to time cause to be compiled and publicized widely information as to the types and quantities of such surplus property which has or will become available within a given period of time for exclusive disposal to veterans in accordance with the provisions of this subsection."

SEC. 2. Subsection (a) of section 12 thereof is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "except disposals under section 16 (b)".

SEC. 3. Subsection (f) of section 13 thereof is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "and disposals under section 16 and subsection (e) of section 18".

SEC. 4. The last sentence of subsection (e) of section 18 thereof is hereby amended to read as follows: "The disposal of surplus property under this subsection shall be given priority immediately following transfers to other Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under

section 16. The provisions of subsection (c) of section 12 shall be applicable to purchases made under this subsection."

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944, as amended, so as to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' priority."

Calendar No. 1158

79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1757

[Report No. 1142]

A BILL

To broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' preference provided for in the Surplus Property Act of 1944.

By Mr. MAYBANK, Mr. O'MAHONEY, and Mr. CHAVEZ

JANUARY 24 (legislative day, JANUARY 18), 1946
Read twice and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs

APRIL 9 (legislative day, MARCH 5), 1946
Reported with amendments

DIGEST OF CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Legislative Reports and Service Section
(For Department staff only)

Issued April 15, 1946
For actions of Apr. 12 & 13, 1946
79th-2nd, Nos. 67 & 68

CONTENTS

Accounting.....27
Adjournment.....21
Animal industry.....7
Bankruptcy.....10
Dairy industry.....44,53
Education.....5
Exports.....11
Flag.....8
Flood control.....32
Foreign relations.....2,17
Forestry.....15,48
Grains.....6,13,25,36,49,50
Housing.....19,47
Inflation.....43,45
Labor, farm.....35,52
Lands, grazing.....15
Library.....4,33
Livestock and meat.....3,39
Loans, farm.....9
Parity prices.....45,52
Personnel.....2,14,29
Price control.18,23,24,44,53
Property, surplus...12,16,23, 31,42,51
Rehabilitation, rural....9
Relief, foreign.....41
Research.....5,7
Selective service.....1,22
Soil conservation....23,28
Subsidies.....3,44
Sugar.....17,40
Trade, foreign.....38
Transportation....13,34,46
Veterans.....12,29,31,47
Wages.....40
Water pollution.....26
Wildlife.....20,30

HIGHLIGHTS: House debated selective-service extension. House Agriculture Committee submitted resolution asking abolition of meat subsidies. Senate passed bill to transfer fur-animal research from Interior to Agriculture. Senate passed Bankhead bill to provide basic authority for rural-rehabilitation program and liberalize various farm-tenancy provisions. Senate passed bill to extent Farm Bankruptcy Act until June 4,1946. Senate passed Philippine trade bill; debate includes discussion of sugar quotas and production. Senate committee reported bill to give present forest-grazing permittees permanent rights. Senate passed bill to broaden veterans' preference for surplus property.

HOUSE - April 12

1. SELECTIVE SERVICE. Began debate on H. R. 6064, to continue the Selective Training and Service Act (pp. 3654-95).

2. FOREIGN SERVICE. Passed with amendments H. R. 5244, to authorize appointment of additional foreign-service officers in the classified grades (pp. 3695-6).

3. MEAT SUBSIDIES. Chairman Flannagan of the Agriculture Committee inserted a resolution "unanimously adopted by the Committee...recommending the abolition of meat subsidies" (pp. 3696-8).

4. LIBRARY REPORT. Received the annual report of the Library of Congress (p. 3698).

5. U. N. EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION. The Foreign Affairs Committee reported with amendment H. J. Res. 305, to provide for U. S. participation in this Organization (H. Rept. 1927)(p. 3698).

6. GRAIN SHORTAGE. Received a petition from Brooklyn residents opposing curtailment of grain use for beer (p. 3699).

SENATE - April 12

7. FUR-ANIMAL RESEARCH. Passed with amendment (to correct a typographical error) H. R. 2115, to transfer from Interior to Agriculture the research on fur-bearing animals (pp. 3627-8). A companion bill, S. 566, was indefinitely postponed.

8. BILL OF RIGHTS DAY. Passed with amendment H. J. Res. 273, requesting the President to designate Dec. 15, 1946, as Bill of Rights Day (p. 3627). S. J. Res. 86, a companion measure, was indefinitely postponed.

9. RURAL REHABILITATION; FARM TENANCY. Passed without amendment S. 1507, to provide basic authority for the rural-rehabilitation program and make various amendments to the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (pp. 3628-9). For provisions of the bill see Digest 186 (1945).

10. FARM BANKRUPTCY. Passed H. R. 5504, to continue the Farm Bankruptcy Act, with a committee amendment to continue the Act until June 4, 1946, rather than June 4, 1947 (pp. 3621, 3631).

11. EXPORT CONTROL. Passed without amendment S. 1980, to continue the act providing for control of exports of items necessary for defense purposes (pp. 3632-3).

12. SURPLUS PROPERTY. Passed as reported S. 1757, to broaden the scope and raise the rank of veterans' preference provided for in the Surplus Property Act of 1944 (pp. 3634-5).

13. TRANSPORTATION. Discussed and, at the request of Sen. Aiken, Vt., passed over H. R. 5316, to repeal the law permitting Canadian vessels to transport iron ore between U. S. ports on the Great Lakes in order to provide more shipping for grain (p. 3636).

14. EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ACT. Passed as reported S. 1325, to amend this Act by extending it to foreign-service and certain other officers, dollar-a-year personnel and others rendering personal services to the Government for nominal compensation or without compensation, etc.; making the benefits provided by the Act the exclusive remedy against the U. S. for injury or death of its civilian personnel; preventing payment by the U. S. of dual benefits for the same injury or death where a right to benefits under more than one Federal statute arises out of the same service; establishing "proper basis" for the computation of pay in making compensation awards (pp. 3637-8).

15. FORESTRY; GRAZING LANDS. The Public Lands and Surveys Committee reported with amendments S. 33, to confer upon present users of national-forest range or purchasers from users an exclusive and perpetual right to grazing permits, to define kind of property commensurate with and prerequisite to permitted use of range, and to provide for advisory boards in connection with use of range (S. Rept. 1176) (p. 3602).

16. SURPLUS PROPERTY DISPOSAL. Passed with amendment S. 1636, to amend the Surplus Property Act so as to designate the State Department as disposal agency for surplus property outside the U.S. (pp. 3624-5).

17. PHILIPPINE TRADE RELATIONS. Passed as reported H. R. 5856, to provide for trade relations between the U.S. and the Philippines (pp. 3602, 3605-12). During the debate Sens. Walsh (Mass.), Ellender (La.) and others discussed sugar quotas and sugar production in the U.S. (pp. 3607-10).

18. PRICE CONTROL. Sen. Mitchell, Wash., inserted an Ephrata (Wash.) C of C resolution favoring continuation of OPA (p. 3602).

Sen. Capper, Kans., inserted a Wichita (Kans.) businessmen's telegram opposing continuation of OPA (p. 3602).

pose we need it now for veterans' housing, and for other housing.

Mr. MAGNUSON. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. THOMAS of Utah. I yield.

Mr. MAGNUSON. I understood the Senator to say that the measure applied only to products we had imported.

Mr. THOMAS of Utah. It applies to everything we need.

Mr. MAGNUSON. So if lumber were one of those items there could be no export of lumber out of this country without a permit?

Mr. THOMAS of Utah. That is correct.

Mr. MAGNUSON. But it is possible to obtain a permit to export lumber?

Mr. THOMAS of Utah. Yes.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill (S. 1980) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

ELIAS BAUMGARTEN

The bill (H. R. 1356) for the relief of Elias Baumgarten was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

LAWFUL ADMISSION TO UNITED STATES OF NORA R. NEVILLE

The bill (H. R. 1350) to record the lawful admission to the United States for permanent residence of Nora R. Neville was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MERCY DUKE BOEHL

The bill (S. 875) for the relief of Mercy Duke Boehl was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That, notwithstanding the provisions of the immigration laws, the Attorney General is authorized and directed to permit Mercy Duke Boehl, the wife of an American citizen, to remain permanently in the United States.

JOSEPH TARANTOLA AND IDA TARANTOLA

The bill (H. R. 2415) for the relief of Joseph Tarantola and Ida Tarantola was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

FRANK E. WILMOT

The bill (H. R. 4240) for the relief of Frank E. Wilmot was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MRS. JUD HENDRY AND HER DAUGHTER, GLADYS HENDRY

The bill (H. R. 4056) for the relief of Mrs. Jud Hendry, and her daughter, Gladys Hendry, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

H. A. EDD

The bill (H. R. 4054) for the relief of H. A. Edd was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MRS. JEAN TAUBE WELLER

The bill (H. R. 3126) for the relief of Mrs. Jean Taube Weller was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

BRAXTON B. FOLMAR AND OTHERS

The bill (H. R. 3513) for the relief of Braxton B. Folmar and Mary Inez Folmar, William Ernest Evans and Dora Ethel Evans, Joseph Thomas Avery and Maggie M. Avery, Robert H. Phillips and Hattie P. Phillips, and the legal guardian of James T. Avery, a minor, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

LEGAL GUARDIAN OF WILMA SUE WOODS AND OTHERS

The bill (H. R. 2848) for the relief of the legal guardian of Wilma Sue Woods, Patsy Woods, Raymond E. Hilliard, and Thomas E. Hilliard, minors, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

NICHOLAS T. STEPP

The bill (H. R. 4560) for the relief of Nicholas T. Stepp was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

HUTCHINSON'S BOAT WORKS, INC., AND OTHERS

The bill (H. R. 1217) for the relief of Hutchinson's Boat Works, Inc., and others, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

JOHN C. SPARGO

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 1747) for the relief of John C. Spargo, which had been reported from the Committee on Claims with amendments on page 1, line 6, after the words "sum of", to strike out "$5,350" and insert "$2,500"; and in line 7, after the word "compensation", to insert "for medical and hospital expenses incurred and"; so as to make the bill read:

Be it enacted, etc., That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to pay, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to John C. Spargo, of Seattle, Wash., the sum of $2,500, in full satisfaction of his claim against the United States for compensation for medical and hospital expenses incurred and for personal injuries and loss of earnings sustained by him, as a result of an accident which occurred when the automobile which he was driving was struck by a United States Army vehicle, between Shelton, Wash., and Bremerton, Wash., on May 1, 1941: *Provided*, That no part of the amount appropriated in this act in excess of 10 percent thereof shall be paid or delivered to or received by any agent or attorney on account of services rendered in connection with this claim, and the same shall be unlawful, any contract to the contrary notwithstanding. Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not exceeding $1,000.

The amendments were agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

EDWARD OATNEAL AND OTHERS

The bill (H. R. 2931) for the relief of Edward Oatneal, John N. Oatneal, Jr., and James R. Oatneal, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

CLAIM OF A. G. BAILEY

The bill (H. R. 1838) to confer jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims to hear, determine, and render judgment upon a certain claim of A. G. Bailey against the United States, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

ALDONA KOJAS

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 997) for the relief of Aldona Kojas, which had been reported from the Committee on Claims with an amendment on page 1, line 6, after the words "the sum of", to strike out "$10,000," and insert "$4,044"; so as to make the bill read:

Be it enacted, etc., That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to pay, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to Aldona Kojas, of Bridgeport, Conn., the sum of $4,044, in full satisfaction of her claims against the United States for compensation for personal injuries sustained by her, for reimbursement of hospital, medical, and other expenses incurred by her, as a result of an accident which occurred while she was riding as a passenger in a Coast Guard vehicle No. T–2682 on October 20, 1944, when it was involved in a collision at the intersection of Orange Avenue and Admiral Street, West Haven, Conn.: *Provided*, That no part of the amount appropriated in this act in excess of 10 percent thereof shall be paid or delivered to or received by any agent or attorney on account of services rendered in connection with this claim, and the same shall be unlawful, any contract to the contrary notwithstanding. Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not exceeding $1,000.

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

DAVE TOPPER

The bill (H. R. 2062) for the relief of Dave Topper was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

ELIZABETH M. SIMMONS AND ROBERT H. SIMMONS

The bill (H. R. 3121) for the relief of Elizabeth M. Simmons and Robert H. Simmons was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

COLUMBUS THOMAS

The bill (H. R. 2289) for the relief of Columbus Thomas was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

SAM BECHTOLD

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 1286) for the relief of Sam Bechtold, which had been reported from the Committee on Claims with an amendment, on page 1, line 6, after the words "the sum of", to strike out "$19,839.40", and insert "$6,239.40"; so as to make the bill read:

Be it enacted, etc., That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to pay, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to Sam Bechtold, of St. Ignatius, Mont., the sum of $6,239.40, in full satisfaction of his claim against the

United States for compensation for personal injuries sustained by him, on November 27, 1944, when escaped prisoners from the northwestern branch, United States disciplinary barracks, Fort Missoula, Mont., assaulted him and stole his automobile, and for reimbursement of medical, hospital, and other expenses incurred by him as a result of such injuries and theft: *Provided,* That no part of the amount apropriated in this act in excess of 10 percent thereof shall be paid or delivered to or received by any agent or attorney on account of services rendered in connection with this claim, and the same shall be unlawful, any contract to the contrary notwithstanding. Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not exceeding $1,000.

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

ORVIS WELCH

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (H. R. 2167) for the relief of Orvis Welch, which had been reported from the Committee on Claims with an amendment, on page 1, line 6, after the words "the sum of", strike out "$4,523.45" and insert $3,523.45."

The amendment was agreed to.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time and passed.

ELI L. SCOTT

The bill (H. R. 1721) for the relief of Eli L. Scott, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

LEGAL GUARDIAN OF JAMES HERBERT KEITH, A MINOR

The bill (H. R. 3301) for the relief of the legal guardian of James Herbert Keith, a minor, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

GEORGE F. POWELL

The bill (H. R. 3430) for the relief of George F. Powell, was considered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

JOSEPH SCHELL

The bill (H. R. 4297) for the relief of Joseph Schell, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

ESTHER L. BERG

The bill (H. R. 2826) for the relief of Esther L. Berg was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

HERMAN FEINBERG

The bill (H. R. 1352) for the relief of Herman Feinberg was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

TOLL BRIDGE ACROSS THE CONNECTICUT RIVER AT OLD SAYBROOK, CONN.

The bill (H. R. 4940) granting the consent of Congress to the State of Connecticut, acting by and through any agency or commission thereof, to construct, maintain, and operate a toll bridge across the Connecticut River at or near Old Saybrook, Conn., was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MRS. GERTRUDE VERBARG

The bill (H. R. 1073) for the relief of Mrs. Gertrude Verbarg, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

OSCAR R. STEINERT

The bill (H. R. 5664) for the relief of Oscar R. Steinert was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

ADDITIONAL PERMANENT PROFESSORS, UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

The bill (S. 1963) to authorize additional permanent professors of the United States Military Academy was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That one additional permanent professor is hereby authorized for each of the nine departments of instruction of the United States Military Academy for which one such professor is now authorized. Such professors shall have the rank, pay, allowances, retirement rights, and other benefits authorized for other permanent professors of the Academy: *Provided,* That the senior professor in each department of instruction shall be the head thereof.

SEC. 2. The positions of professor of law and professor of ordnance of the United States Military Academy hereafter shall be filled by the appointment of permanent professors, who shall have the rank, pay, allowances, retirement rights, and other benefits authorized for other permanent professors of the Academy.

SEC. 3. There is hereby authorized, as an additional permanent professor of the United States Military Academy, a dean of the Academic Board, who shall have such duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Superintendent of the Academy with the approval of the Secretary of War. Appointments to this position shall be made from among permanent professors who have served as heads of departments of instruction of the Academy. The dean of the Academic Board shall have the rank, pay, allowances, retirement rights, and other benefits authorized for permanent brigadier generals of the Army, except that the statutory retirement age shall be the same as that of other permanent professors of the Academy.

BILL PASSED OVER

The bill (S. 1850) to promote the progress of science and the useful arts, to secure the national defense, to advance the national health and welfare, and for other purposes was announced as next in order.

SEVERAL SENATORS. Over!

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be passed over.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER BRIDGE NEAR CLINTON, IOWA

The bill (H. R. 4914) to revive and reenact the act entitled "An act creating the City of Clinton Bridge Commission and authorizing said commission and its successors to acquire by purchase or condemnation and to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge or bridges across the Mississippi River at or near Clinton, Iowa, and at or near Fulton, Ill.," approved December 21, 1944, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

RAINY RIVER BRIDGE NEAR, BAUDETTE, MINN.

The bill (H. R. 5544) authorizing the village of Baudette, State of Minnesota, its public successors or public assigns, to construct, maintain, and operate a toll bridge across the Rainy River at or near Baudette, Minn., was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

PEE DEE RIVER BRIDGE NEAR CASHUA FERRY, S. C.

The bill (H. R. 5275) to revive and reenact the act granting the consent of Congress to the State Highway Department of South Carolina to construct, maintain, and operate a free highway bridge across the Pee Dee River, at or near Cashua Ferry, S. C., approved April 30, 1940, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

BILL PASSED OVER

The bill (H. R. 4190) granting the consent of Congress to the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. to construct, maintain, and operate a railroad bridge across the Allegheny River at or near Warren, Pa., was announced as next in order.

Mr. AIKEN. Let the bill go over.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be passed over.

VETERANS' PREFERENCE UNDER SURPLUS PROPERTY ACT OF 1944

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 1757) to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' preference provided for in the Surplus Property Act of 1944, which had been reported from the Committee on Military Affairs, with an amendment, to strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

That section 16 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"DISPOSAL TO VETERANS

"SEC. 16. (a) The Administrator shall prescribe regulations permitting veterans to acquire appropriate quantities of surplus property to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises, and dispositions of surplus property to veterans under this section shall be given priority over all other disposal of property provided for in this act, except transfers to Government agencies under section 12.

"(b) The Administrator shall cause to be set aside or otherwise to be made available, for such period or periods of time as he may determine, appropriate types and quantities of surplus property for exclusive disposal to veterans for their own personal use or to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. The Administrator shall prepare regulations designed to achieve the equitable distribution of such surplus property among veterans. In selecting any types of surplus property for disposal in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, the Administrator shall give due consideration to the availability of adequate facilities for and the cost of the distribution of such surplus property. The Administrator shall from time to time cause to be compiled and publicized widely information as to the types and quantities of such surplus property which has or will become available within a given

period of time for exclusive disposal to veterans in accordance with the provisions of this subsection."

SEC. 2. Subsection (a) of section 12 thereof is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "except disposals under section 16 (b)."

SEC. 3. Subsection (f) of section 13 thereof is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "and disposals under section 16 and subsection (e) of section 18."

SEC. 4. The last sentence of subsection (e) of section 18 thereof is hereby amended to read as follows: "The disposal of surplus property under this subsection shall be given priority immediately following transfers to other Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16. The provisions of subsection (c) of section 12 shall be applicable to purchases made under this subsection."

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944, as amended, so as to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' priority."

DES MOINES RIVER BRIDGE, FARMINGTON, IOWA

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 1834) granting the consent of Congress to the Iowa State Highway Commission to construct and maintain a free bridge across the Des Moines River at the town of Farmington, Iowa, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce with an amendment, to strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

The consent of Congress is hereby granted to the State of Iowa or Iowa State Highway Commission to construct, maintain, and operate a free highway bridge and approaches thereto across the Des Moines River, at a point suitable to the interests of navigation, at or near Farmington, Iowa, in accordance with the provisions of the act entitled "An act to regulate the construction of bridges over navigable waters," approved March 23, 1906, and subject to the conditions and limitations contained in this act.

SEC. 2. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this act is hereby expressly reserved.

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill granting the consent of Congress to the State of Iowa or the Iowa State Highway Commission to construct, maintain, and operate a free highway bridge across the Des Moines River at or near Farmington, Iowa."

JOINT RESOLUTION PASSED OVER

The joint resolution (S. J. Res. 138) to implement further the purposes of the Bretton Woods Agreements Act by authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to carry out an agreement with the United Kingdom and for other purposes was announced as next in order.

Mr. BARKLEY. Let the joint resolution go over.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The joint resolution will be passed over.

LEGAL GUARDIAN OF JAMES IRVING MARTIN, A MINOR

The bill (H. R. 2509) for the relief of the legal guardian of James Irving Martin, a minor, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MRS. CLIFFORD W. PREVATT

The bill (H. R. 3948) for the relief of Mrs. Clifford W. Prevatt was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

BERNICE B. COOPER

The bill (H. R. 988) for the relief of Bernice B. Cooper, junior clerk-typist, Weatherford, Tex., rural rehabilitation office, Farm Security Administration, Department of Agriculture, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

JOHN BELL

The bill (H. R. 1235) for the relief of John Bell was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

LEE HARRISON

The bill (H. R. 2156) for the relief of Lee Harrison was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MILDRED NEIFFER

The bill (H. R. 1759) for the relief of Mildred Neiffer was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MRS. FRANK MITCHELL AND J. L. PRICE

The bill (H. R. 2885) for the relief of Mrs. Frank Mitchell and J. L. Price was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

JOHN DOSHIM

The bill (H. R. 2682) for the relief of John Doshim was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

VIRGE McCLURE

The bill (H. R. 1269) for the relief of Virge McClure was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MRS. GRANT LOGAN

The bill (H. R. 2331) for the relief of Mrs. Grant Logan was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

W. E. NOAH

The bill (H. R. 1262) for the relief of W. E. Noah was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MR. AND MRS. CIPRIANO VASQUEZ

The bill (H. R. 3483) for the relief of Mr. and Mrs. Cipriano Vasquez was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MATTIE LEE WRIGHT

The bill (H. R. 3217) for the relief of Mattie Lee Wright was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

RAE GLAUBER

The bill (H. R. 2217) for the relief of Rae Glauber was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

MRS. RUBY MILLER

The bill (H. R. 3161) for the relief of Mrs. Ruby Miller was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

CLYDE ROWND, AND OTHERS

The bill (H. R. 2904) for the relief of Clyde Rownd, Della Rownd, and Benjamin C. Day was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

ADDIE PRUITT

The bill (H. R. 3591) for the relief of Addie Pruitt was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

ESTATE OF ELEANOR WILSON LYNDE, DECEASED

The bill (H. R. 3846) for the relief of the estate of Eleanor Wilson Lynde, deceased, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

SOCONY-VACUUM OIL CO.

The bill (S. 1742) for the relief of Socony-Vacuum Oil Co. was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to pay, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to the Socony-Vacuum Oil Co., of Detroit, Mich., the sum of $5,231.99, in full satisfaction of its claim against the United States for compensation for property damage sustained by it as a result of an accident which occurred when a United States Navy airplane crashed into a group of its oil tanks and burned, at the Flat Rock works near Trenton, Mich., on February 12, 1945: *Provided*, That no part of the amount appropriated in this act in excess of 10 percent thereof shall be paid or delivered to or received by any agent or attorney on account of services rendered in connection with this claim, and the same shall be unlawful, any contract to the contrary notwithstanding. Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not exceeding $1,000.

ARTHUR F. DOWNS

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 1201), for the relief of Arthur F. Downs, which had been reported from the Committee on Claims, with amendments, on page 1, line 6, after the words "the sum of," to strike out "$2,119.96," and insert "$849.36"; and on page 2, line 3, after the word "November," to strike out "25," and insert "24," so as to make the bill read:

Be it enacted, etc., That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to pay, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to Arthur F. Downs, of Portsmouth, N. H., the sum of $849.36, in full satisfaction of his claim against the United States for compensation for personal injuries and loss of earnings sustained by him, and for reimbursement of hospital and other expenses incurred by him, as a result of having been shot by a member of the United States Marine Corps, near the Newington crossroad, between Portmouth, N. H., and Rochester, N. H., on November 24, 1943: *Provided*, That no part of the amount appropriated in this act in excess of 10 percent thereof shall be paid or delivered to or received by any agent or attorney on account of services rendered in connection with this

claim, and the same shall be unlawful, any contract to the contrary notwithstanding. Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not exceeding $1,000.

The amendments were agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

TRANSPORTATION OF IRON ORE BY CANADIAN VESSELS—BILL PASSED OVER

The bill (H. R. 5316) to repeal the law permitting vessels of Canadian registry to transport iron ore between United States ports on the Great Lakes was announced as next in order.

Mr. AIKEN. Let the bill go over.

Mr. RADCLIFFE. Mr. President, I thought I heard the suggestion that House bill 5316, Calendar 1182, be passed over. I should like to make a very brief statement in connection with the bill.

It does nothing but restore the law to the situation in which it was before the war. During the war we did not have sufficient transportation facilities for the transportation of ore between the Lake Superior region and the section around Lake Erie, for example. In order to meet that emergency a law was enacted permitting Canadian vessels, under certain conditions, to transport ore. It was highly essential to do so for the sake of the war effort. The need for such facilities has passed. It is not at all necessary to permit Canadian vessels to pass between two American ports. Consequently, in view of the fact that there is no need for this special war legislation, we should go back to the situation which existed before the war.

Mr. AIKEN. Let the bill go over.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be passed over.

OPERATION OF RAILWAY ACROSS GOVERNMENT RESERVATION, WHITE RIVER, ARK.

The bill (H. R. 4239) granting to Guy A. Thompson, trustee, Missouri Pacific Railroad Co., debtor, and to his successors and assigns, authority to relocate, maintain, and operate a single-track railway across United States Government reservation at lock No. 3, White River, Independence County, Ark., and for other purposes, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

BILL PASSED OVER

The bill (S. 2057) to extend the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, as amended, until May 15, 1947, and for other purposes, was announced as next in order.

SEVERAL SENATORS. Over!

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be passed over.

SALE BY UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF AERIAL AND OTHER PHOTOGRAPHS, ETC.

The bill (S. 2029) to authorize the Director of the United States Geological Survey to produce and sell copies of aerial or other photographs and mosaics, and photographic or photostatic reproductions of records, on a reimbursement of appropriation basis was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That so much of the act approved March 4, 1909 (35 Stat. 945, 989; 43 U. S. C., sec. 45), reading "The Director of the Geological Survey shall hereafter furnish to any person, concern, or institution, in the interest of education and the dissemination of knowledge, that shall pay in advance the whole cost of material and services thereof, copies of any photographs or lantern slides in the possession of the United States Geological Survey; and the moneys received by the Director for the same shall be deposited in the United States Treasury" is hereby amended to read as follows:

"The Director of the United States Geological Survey hereafter may produce and sell on a reimbursable basis to interested persons, concerns, and institutions, copies of aerial or other photographs and mosaics that have been obtained in connection with the authorized work of the United States Geological Survey and photographic or photostatic reproductions of records in the official custody of the Director at such prices (not less than the estimated cost of furnishing such copies or reproductions) as the Director, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, may determine, the money received from such sales to be deposited in the Treasury to the credit of the appropriation then current and chargeable for the cost of furnishing copies or reproductions as herein authorized."

INCREASED PAY FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES—BILL PASSED OVER

The bill (S. 1357) to increase the pay of the military and naval forces while on sea duty or duty beyond the continental limits of the United States or in Alaska was announced as next in order.

Mr. REVERCOMB. Mr. President, there are several bills of this nature for increased pay for members of the armed forces, and I feel that they all ought to go over and be considered together.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be passed over.

RETURN TO CITY OF NEW ORLEANS OF SILVER SERVICE, ETC., OF THE CRUISER NEW ORLEANS

The bill (H. R. 5765) authorizing the Secretary of the Navy in his discretion to deliver to the custody of the city of New Orleans the silver service and silver bell presented to the United States for the cruiser *New Orleans* was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

BILLS PASSED OVER

The bill (S. 1869) to amend the Pay Readjustment Act of 1942, as amended, so as to provide an increase of 20 percent, and for other purposes was announced as next in order.

Mr. WHERRY. Let the bill go over.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be passed over.

The bill (S. 2038) to increase the rates of monthly base pay of enlisted men of the lower 5 pay grades of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard for the purpose of encouraging voluntary enlistments in the armed forces, was announced as next in order.

SEVERAL SENATORS. Over!

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be passed over.

The bill (S. 1253) to amend the Interstate Commerce Act, as amended, and for other purposes, was announced as next in order.

Mr. CORDON. Let the bill go over.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be passed over.

COLUMBIA RIVER BRIDGE AT NORTHPORT, WASH.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 943) granting the consent of Congress to the State of Washington to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge across the Columbia River at Northport, Wash., which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce with amendments, on page 1, line 4, after the name "Washington", to strike out the comma and the words "or its assigns"; and in line 5, before the word "bridge", to insert "free highway", so as to make the bill read:

Be it enacted, etc., That the consent of Congress is hereby granted to the State of Washington to construct, maintain, and operate a free highway bridge and approaches thereto across the Columbia River at a point suitable to the interests of navigation, at or near the town of Northport, in Stevens County, Wash., in accordance with the provisions of an act entitled "An act to regulate the construction of bridges over navigable waters," approved March 23, 1906.

The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

The amendments were agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill granting the consent of Congress to the State of Washington to construct, maintain, and operate a free highway bridge across the Columbia River at Northport, Wash."

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. That completes the calendar.

LITIGATION AFFECTING BONNEVILLE PROJECT

Mr. MAGNUSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of Senate bill 1516, Calendar No. 724.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be stated by title for the information of the Senate.

The CHIEF CLERK. A bill (S. 1516) to amend section 12 of the Bonneville Project Act, as amended.

Mr. WHERRY. Mr. President, was unanimous consent given for the consideration of Senate bill 1516?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Washington is now asking unanimous consent for the consideration of Senate bill 1516, the title of which has just been stated by the clerk.

Mr. MAGNUSON. I shall be glad to explain the bill to the Senate.

Mr. WHERRY. Mr. President, I wish to keep faith with Senators who have left the Chamber on the assumption that the call of the calendar would start with Calendar No. 1020. This bill precedes the point where the call of the calendar started today. I do not wish to delay the Senate or the Senator from Washington. I do not know anything about the bill.

Mr. MAGNUSON. I shall be glad to explain it.

Mr. WHERRY. If there is anything controversial in the bill, it should be passed over.

Mr. MAGNUSON. It is not controversial at all.

79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1757

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 15, 1946

Referred to the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments

AN ACT

To amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944, as amended, so as to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' priority.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 16 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"DISPOSAL TO VETERANS

"SEC. 16. (a) The Administrator shall prescribe regulations permitting veterans to acquire appropriate quantities of surplus property to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises, and dispositions of surplus property to veterans under

this section shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this Act, except transfers to Government agencies under section 12.

"(b) The Administrator shall cause to be set aside or otherwise to be made available, for such period or periods of time as he may determine, appropriate types and quantities of surplus property for exclusive disposal to veterans for their own personal use or to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. The Administrator shall prepare regulations designed to achieve the equitable distribution of such surplus property among veterans. In selecting any types of surplus property for disposal in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, the Administrator shall give due consideration to the availability of adequate facilities for and the cost of the distribution of such surplus property. The Administrator shall from time to time cause to be compiled and publicized widely information as to the types and quantities of such surplus property which has or will become available within a given period of time for exclusive disposal to veterans in accordance with the provisions of this subsection."

SEC. 2. Subsection (a) of section 12 thereof is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "except disposals under section 16 (b)".

SEC. 3. Subsection (f) of section 13 thereof is hereby

amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "and disposals under section 16 and subsection (e) of section 18".

SEC. 4. The last sentence of subsection (e) of section 18 thereof is hereby amended to read as follows: "The disposal of surplus property under this subsection shall be given priority immediately following transfers to other Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16. The provisions of subsection (c) of section 12 shall be applicable to purchases made under this subsection."

Passed the Senate April 12 (legislative day, March 5), 1946.

Attest: LESLIE L. BIFFLE,

Secretary.

79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1757

AN ACT

To amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944, as amended, so as to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' priority.

APRIL 15, 1946

Referred to the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments

DIGEST OF CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS
OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Legislative Reports and Service Section
(For Department staff only)

Issued April 17, 1946
For actions of April 16, 1946
79th-2nd, No. 70

CONTENTS

Clothing.....12
Dairy industry.....6,8
Education..... 4
Efficiency..... 5
Expenditures..... 9
Grain.....12
Labor..... 8
Loans.....10,11
Personnel.....5,9
Price control.....1,6,12
Property, surplus.....3,7
Small business.....11
Statistics..... 2
Subsidies.....1,6
Veterans.....3,10

HIGHLIGHTS: House debated price-control bill; amendments to be considered today.

HOUSE

1. PRICE CONTROL; SUBSIDIES. Continued debate on H. R. 6042, to continue the Stabilization and Price Control Acts and limit subsidies (pp. 3859-901). It is expected that amendments will be considered today.

2. STATISTICS. The Census Committee reported with amendment H. R. 5857, to provide basic authority for the Census Bureau's activities (H. Rept. 1942)(p. 3903).

SENATE

IN SESSION. Next meeting Wed., Apr. 17.

BILLS INTRODUCED

3. SURPLUS PROPERTY. H. R. 6157, by Rep. Manasco, Ala., to amend the Surplus Property Act regarding veterans' preference. To Expenditures in the Executive Departments Committee. (p. 3903.)

4. EDUCATION. H. R. 6158, by Rep. Earthman, Tenn., to authorize Federal aid for education. To Education Committee. (p. 3903.)

5. ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY. H. R. 6159, to provide for independent examinations and investigations of Government administrative efficiency. To Expenditures in the Executive Departments Committee. (pp. 3903-4.)

ITEMS IN APPENDIX

6. DAIRY PRODUCTS; PRICE CONTROLS; SUBSIDIES. Extension of remarks of Rep. Reed, N.Y., including a National Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation letter, opposing H.R. 6042, the OPA extension bill, and criticizing subsidies and OPA regulations on dairy products (pp. A2319-20).

7. SURPLUS PROPERTY. Extension of remarks of Rep. McCormack, Mass., stating that "unjust criticism...has been heaped upon the War Assets Administration...because of lack of knowledge or misunderstanding of the facts pertaining to the disposal of surplus property" (p. A2331).

8. LABOR; DAIRY PRODUCTS. Extension of remarks of Rep. Thomas, N.J., criticizing the N.J. milk situation and threatened strike and including N.J. United Milk Producers' and Ideal Farms Dairy Products' letters on the subject (pp. A2329-30).

9. FEDERAL EXPENDITURES. Rep. Grant, Ind., criticized Federal expenditures and cited personnel increases in the various Departments (including Agriculture)(pp. A2334-5).

10. VETERANS' LOANS. Rep. Patman, Tex., inserted a Banking editorial, "GI Loans Speeded by Amendments" (pp. A2335-6).

11. R.F.C. LOANS; SMALL BUSINESS. Extension of remarks of Rep. Patman, Tex., commending RFC's plan for assisting small business and including a letter and an article on the subject (pp. A2333-4).

12. PRICE CONTROL. Rep. Shafer, Mich., inserted an AFofL Monthly Survey article calling for a strict limitation of OPA controls (pp. A2325-6).

Extension of remarks of Rep. Vursell, Ill., criticizing the informational methods of the OPA and citing an example of wheat prices (p. A2329).

Extension of remarks of Rep. Reed, N.Y., opposing the continuation of OPA and including the testimony of a dress manufacturer urging that Congress define the powers and duties of the OPA (pp. A2331-3).

Extension of remarks of Rep. Holifield, Calif., criticizing OPA regulations in the men's clothing industries and including a Calif. Apparel News article on the subject (pp. A2336-7).

Rep. Monroney, Okla., inserted the statement of Mrs. Caroline Ware on behalf of several women's organizations urging extension of the OPA(pp.A2339-41).

- o -

COMMITTEE-HEARINGS ANNOUNCEMENTS for Apr. 17: S. Banking and Currency, OPA extension; S. Education and Labor, national health bill; S. Interstate Commerce, ICC Act amendments; S. Appropriations, second deficienty bill (ex.); Conference on Philippine trade bill; H. Flood Control, lower Mississippi basin.

- o -

For supplemental information and copies of legislative material referred to, call Ext. 4654, or send to Room 113 Adm. Arrangements may be made to be kept advised, routinely, of developments on any particular bill.

- oOo -

H. R. 5544. An act authorizing the village of Baudette, State of Minnesota, its public successors, or public assigns, to construct, maintain, and operate a toll bridge across the Rainy River at or near Baudette, Minn.;

H. R. 5574. An act to amend paragraph 8 of part VII, Veterans Regulation No. 1 (a), as amended, to authorize an appropriation of $1,500,000 as a revolving fund in lieu of $500,000 now authorized;

H. R. 5664. An act for the relief of Oscar R. Steinert; and

H. R. 5765. An act authorizing the Secretary of the Navy in his discretion to deliver to the custody of the city of New Orleans the silver service and silver bell presented to the United States for the cruiser *New Orleans*.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 9 minutes p. m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 17, 1946, at 10 o'clock a. m.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE

(Wednesday, April 17, 1946)

There will be a meeting of the Petroleum Subcommittee of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce at 10 a. m., April 17, 1946. Business to be considered: Public hearing to receive the final report of the Petroleum Administration for War.

COMMITTEE ON FLOOD CONTROL

(Wednesday, April 17, 1946)

8. Wednesday, April 17. Lower Mississippi River Basin, including the Red River, and including additional authorization for the approved comprehensive plan for the White and Arkansas River Basin;

Red River below Denison Dam, Tex., Okla., Ark., and La.; Bayou Pierre, La.; La Fourche Bayou, La.; Pontchartrain Lake, La.; Mermentau River, La.; North Canadian River, Okla.; Polecat Creek, Okla.; Grand (Neosho) River, Kans., Mo., and Okla.; Arkansas River, Ponca City, Okla.; Mississippi River, west Tennessee tributaries; Boeuf and Tensas Rivers and Bayou Macon, Ark. and La.; Big Sunflower, Little Sunflower, Hushpuckena, and Quiver Rivers and their tributaries, and on Hull Brake, Mill Creek Canal, Bogue Phalia, Ditchlow Bayou, Deer Creek, and Steele Bayou, Miss.

9. Thursday, April 18. Lt. Gen. R. A. Wheeler, Chief of Engineers, and other representatives of the Corps of Engineers, and proponents and opponents of projects in other regions.

10. Friday, April 19. Senators and Representatives in Congress, and Department of Agriculture, Weather Bureau, and other Government agencies.

COMMITTEE ON RIVERS AND HARBORS

Revised schedule of hearings on the omnibus river and harbor authorization bill to start Tuesday, April 9, 1946, at 10:30 a. m., is as follows:

(Wednesday, April 17)

Fairport Harbor, Ohio.

Calumet-Sag Channel, Ind. and Ill.

Chicago River, North Branch of Illinois.

Napa River, Calif.

Coos Bay, Oreg.

Columbia River at Astoria, Oreg.

Columbia River at The Dalles, Oreg.

Columbia River, Foster Creek Dam, Wash.

(Wednesday and Thursday, May 1 and 2)

Tombigbee-Tennessee Rivers.

(Friday, May 3)

Held open for description of projects favorably recommended by the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors during its April meeting.

(Monday and Tuesday, May 6 and 7)

Big Sandy River, Tug and Levisa Forks, Va., W. Va., and Ky.

(Wednesday and Thursday, May 8 and 9)

Arkansas River, Ark. and Okla.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. WOOD. Committee on Un-American Activities. Proceeding against the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee (Rept. No. 1936). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. BULWINKLE: Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. H. R. 164. A bill to provide safety in aviation and to direct an investigation of the causes and characteristics of thunderstorms; without amendment (Rept. No. 1937). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. BULWINKLE: Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. H. R. 6030. A bill to amend the Civil Aeronautics Act of 1938, as amended, so as to improve international collaboration with respect to meteorology; without amendment (Rept. No. 1938). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. O'TOOLE: Committee on the Library. House Joint Resolution 331. Joint resolution to authorize suitable participation by the United States in the observance of the two-hundredth anniversary of the founding of Princeton University; without amendment (Rept. No. 1939). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. ALLEN of Louisiana: Committee on the Census. H. R. 5857. A bill to provide for the collection and publication of statistical information by the Bureau of the Census; with amendment (Rept. No. 1942). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. COMBS: Committee on Claims. H. R. 4527. A bill for the relief of O. T. Nelson, and wife, Clara Nelson; with amendment (Rept. No. 1940). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Mr. COMBS: Committee on Claims. H. R. 5212. A bill for the relief of the dependents of Cecil M. Foxworth, deceased; without amendment (Rept. No. 1941). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. DOLLIVER:

H. R. 6147. A bill to amend the Nationality Act of 1940; to the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization.

By Mr. BRADLEY of Michigan:

H. R. 6148. A bill to exempt certain vessels from filing passenger lists; to the Committee on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma:

H. R. 6149. A bill to grant to enlisted personnel of the armed forces certain benefits in lieu of accumulated leave; to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. LANE:

H. R. 6150. A bill to increase further the amount of Federal aid to State or Territorial homes for the support of disabled soldiers and sailors of the United States; to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. MAY:

H. R. 6151. A bill to provide for sundry matters affecting the armed forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. O'BRIEN of Michigan:

H. R. 6152. A bill to amend the act of July 6, 1945, relating to the compensation of postal employees, to provide for adjusting compensation of clerks assigned to terminal railway post offices, air mail field transfer offices, and office clerks, and study allowance time credits for certain employees; to the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads.

By Mr. RANKIN:

H. R. 6153. A bill to remove the existing limitation on the number of associate members of the Board of Veterans' Appeals in the Veterans' Administration; to the Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation.

By Mr. TALLE:

H. R. 6154. A bill to extend the time within which application for the benefits of the Mustering-Out Payment Act of 1944 may be made by veterans discharged from the armed forces before the effective date of such act; to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. WASIELEWSKI:

H. R. 6155. A bill to provide for the valuation of unlisted stock and securities for Federal estate tax purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. EARTHMAN:

H. R. 6156. A bill to increase the allowance for burial expenses of deceased veterans; to the Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation.

By Mr. MANASCO:

H. R. 6157. A bill to amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944 with reference to veterans' preference, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments.

By Mr. EARTHMAN:

H. R. 6158. A bill to authorize the appropriation of funds to assist the States and Territories in more adequately financing their system of public education, and in reducing the inequalities of educational opportunities through public elementary and public secondary schools; to the Committee on Education.

By Mr. LAFOLLETTE:

H. R. 6159. A bill to provide for independent examinations and investigations of Government administrative efficiency, and

for other purposes; to the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments.

By Mr. PRICE of Florida:

H. R. 6160. A bill to extend the benefits of the act of May 29, 1944, entitled "An act to provide for the recognition of the services of the civilian officials and employees, citizens of the United States, engaged in and about the construction of the Panama Canal," to certain additional civilian officers and employees; to the Committee on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 1 of rule XXII, private bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. ALLEN of Louisiana:

H. R. 6161. A bill for the relief of the legal guardian of Samuel Roscoe Thompson, a minor; to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. DAUGHTON of Virginia:

H. R. 6162. A bill for the relief of Mrs. Pearle Healy Buchanan; to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. SHAFER:

H. R. 6163. A bill for the relief of Linda Edwards; to the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization.

By Mr. TAYLOR:

H. R. 6164. A bill for the relief of Allen S. Collins; to the Committee on Claims.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 1 of rule XXII, petitions and papers were laid on the Clerk's desk and referred as follows:

1810. By Mr. LYNCH: Petition of the Polish-American Congress, down-State division, New York State, urging that the Polish people have a government of their own choosing and an ambassador chosen by them and not at Moscow; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6157

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 16, 1946

Mr. MANASCO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments

A BILL

To amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944 with reference to veterans' preference, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 16 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"DISPOSITIONS TO VETERANS

"SEC. 16. (a) The Administrator shall prescribe regulations to effectuate the objectives of this Act to aid veterans in the acquisition of surplus property, in appropriate quantities and types, to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. Disposals of surplus property (except real property) to

veterans under this subsection shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this Act except transfers to Government agencies under section 12.

"(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12 of this Act, the Administrator may cause to be set aside or otherwise to be made available quantities and types of any surplus property, except real property, which he determines to be appropriate for exclusive disposal to veterans for their own personal use, and to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. The Administrator shall prescribe regulations designed to achieve the equitable distribution of such surplus property among veterans. In selecting any types or quantities of surplus property for disposal in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, the Administrator shall give due consideration to the availability of adequate facilities for and the costs of the distribution of such property. The Administrator shall from time to time cause to be compiled and widely publicized information as to the types and quantities of such surplus property which has or will become available within a given period of time for exclusive disposal to veterans in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

"(c) The Administrator shall prescribe a reasonable time of not less than 15 days after public notice during

which property offered to veterans under this section shall be held for disposal to them."

SEC. 2. Section 12 (a) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"(a) It shall be the duty of the Administrator to facilitate the transfer of surplus property from one Government agency to other Government agencies for their own use and not for transfer or disposition; and the transfer of surplus property under this section shall be given priority over all other disposals provided for in this Act, except disposals to veterans of property reserved exclusively for veterans under subsection (b) of section 16 of this Act. The Administrator shall prescribe a reasonable time within which Government agencies shall exercise the priority provided by this subsection, but the time so fixed shall not exceed twenty days from the time public notice is given of the availability of the surplus property for disposal to Government agencies."

SEC. 3. Section 12 (c) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"(c) The disposal agency responsible for any such property shall transfer it to the Government agency acquiring it at the fair value of the property as fixed by the disposal agency, under regulations prescribed by the Administrator,

unless transfer without reimbursement or transfer of funds is authorized under subsection (d) of this section."

SEC. 4. Section 12 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended by adding a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

"(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 34 (a) of this Act, no Government agency may transfer any property to any other Government agency without reimbursement or transfer of funds under authority of any law approved prior to June 22, 1944. Any disposal agency may transfer surplus property to a Government agency without reimbursement or transfer of funds whenever a transfer on such terms by the owning agency (by which such property was declared surplus) would be authorized by any law approved subsequent to June 21, 1944, to be made to the Government agency desiring such property."

SEC. 5. Section 13 (f) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"(f) The disposal of surplus property under this section to States and political subdivisions and instrumentalities thereof shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this Act, except transfers to Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16 and purchases made under subsection (e) of section 18: *Provided*, That the Administrator may pre-

scribe a reasonable time during which such priority shall be exercised."

SEC. 6. The last sentence of subsection (e) of section 18 thereof is hereby amended to read as follows: "The disposal of surplus property under this subsection shall be given priority immediately following transfers to other Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16. The provisions of subsection (c) of section 12 shall be applicable to purchases made under this subsection."

79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6157

A BILL

To amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944 with reference to veterans' preference, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MANASCO

APRIL 16, 1946

Referred to the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments

DIGEST OF CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Legislative Reports and Service Section
(For Department staff only)

Issued April 18, 1946
For actions of April 17, 1946
79th-2nd, No. 71

CONTENTS

Appropriations.....14
Assistant Secretaries....30
Bankruptcy..... 4
C.C.C.....21
Cotton.....12,21
Dairy industry.....27
Efficiency.....18,22
Feed.....10
Fruits and vegetables....21
Health.....24
Irrigation.....16
Labor, farm..... 3
Lands, public..... 9
Livestock and meats.....10
Loans, foreign.....12,21
Parity..... 3
Personnel.....14
Philippine rehabilitation. 8
Poultry.....10
Price control.....1,25
Property surplus.....5,26
R.F.C.....17
Rationing.....23
Reclamation.....29
Regional authority.....19
Relief, foreign.....23
Reports.....31,32
Statistics..... 6
Subsidies.....1,28
Sugar.....2,11
Tobacco.....21
Trade, foreign.....2,11
Transportation.....20
Veterans..... 5
Wages.....13
Wildlife..... 7

HIGHLIGHTS: House debated price-control and subsidies bill; vote on bill to be taken today. Both houses agreed to conference report on Philippine trade bill; agreed to Senate provision on sugar quotas, but stated it in terms of short, rather than long, tons; ready for President. House Rules Committee cleared Pace bill to include farm-labor costs in parity formula. House committee reported bill to broaden veterans' preference for surplus property. Senate ratified protocol extending international agreements on sugar production and marketing. Sen. Mead commended USDA and other agencies on action to meet livestock-poultry feed needs.

HOUSE

1. PRICE CONTROL; SUBSIDIES. Continued debate on H. R. 6042, the price-control and subsidies extension bill (pp. 3948-4015).

Agreed to the following amendments:

By Rep. Wolcott, Mich., to continue price control until March 31, 1947, instead of June 30, 1947; by a 209-189 vote (pp. 3949-61, 4009-10).

By Rep. Wolcott, requiring price ceilings to yield all costs plus reasonable profit on all items; by a 259-137 vote (pp. 3961-71, 4010-11).

By Rep. Wolcott, to provide for the end of all subsidies by December 31; by a 245-150 vote (pp. 3972-8, 4011-14).

By Rep. Flannagan, Va., to remove all subsidies on livestock and meat on June 30; by a 214-182 vote (pp. 3978-80, 4014-5).

By Rep. Crawford, Mich., to prohibit OPA from forcing wholesalers to absorb higher costs on reconversion items; by a 214-183 vote (pp. 4002, 4015).

By Rep. Crawford, to move up from April 1, 1947, to January 2, 1947, the date on which the President must report to Congress on what commodities are in such short supply as to necessitate continuation of price control beyond the expiration date (pp. 3980, 4011).

By Rep. Gossett, Tex., providing that all price controls must be removed from a commodity when its production during the preceding 12 months equals the volume produced in the fiscal year 1941, with provisions that certifications that such is the case are to be made by the Secretary of Agriculture for all farm products and by the OPA advisory committees for most other items; by a 228-166 vote (pp. 3989-4002, 4011).

Rejected the following amendments:

By Rep. Wadsworth, N. Y., to prohibit price orders, etc., regarding livestock and its edible products; by a 172-223 vote (pp. 3983-6, 4012).

By Rep. Sundstrom, N. J., to define "reasonable profit" as that at least equal to generally prevailing profit 1939-1941; by a 107-128 vote (pp. 3986-9).

By Rep. Whittington, Miss., to prohibit all Government subsidies and sales at a loss after June 30, 1946; by a 62-172 vote (p. 4002).

By Rep. Boren, Okla., to prohibit ceilings below cost per unit plus average profit for any 3-year period between 1936 and 1941 (p. 4003).

By Rep. Landis, Ind., to require 15 days notice to canners or processors of seasonal farm products before ceilings are lowered (p. 4004).

By Rep. Robertson, N. Dak., to prohibit certain actions against State and local enforcement officials; by an 84-133 vote (pp. 4004-5).

By Rep. Koppleman, Conn., stating, "We sympathize with the American people"; by a 52-142 vote (p. 4005).

By Rep. Cheneweth, Colo., to place burden of proof on OPA to show that violations are willful (p. 4005).

By Rep. Andresen, Minn., to prohibit orders, etc., regarding agricultural commodities without the voluntary approval of the Secretary of Agriculture; by a 79-143 vote (pp. 4004, 4006).

By Rep. Barrett, Wyo., to prohibit proceedings against merchants violating orders but not willfully (pp. 4006-8).

Several amendments were presented, discussed, and withdrawn.

2. PHILIPPINE TRADE. Both houses agreed to the conference report on H. R. 5856, the Philippine trade bill (pp. 3927-8, 4008-9). The conferees fixed the sugar quota at 952,000 short tons, which is the same as the Senate provision for 850,000 long tons (House provision was for 850 short tons). This bill will now be sent to the President.

3. FARM LABOR; PARITY FORMULA. The Rules Committee reported a resolution for consideration of H. R. 754, the Pace bill to include farm labor in the parity formula (p. 4009).

4. FARM BANKRUPTCY. Reps. Sumners of Tex., Hobbs, and Michener were appointed conferees on H. R. 5504, to continue the Farm Bankruptcy Act (p. 4017). Senate conferees have not yet been appointed.

5. SURPLUS PROPERTY. The Expenditures in the Executive Departments Committee reported without amendment H. R. 6157 (H. Rept. 1954)(p. 4020). This bill makes veterans' priorities next to those of the Federal Government, provides for certain property to be set aside and held temporarily for disposal to veterans, provides for a time limit of not over 20 days within which the Government agencies must exercise their priorities, and prohibits transfer of property between Government agencies on authority of any law approved before June 22, 1944.

6. STATISTICS. In reporting H. R. 5857 (see Digest 70), the Committee deleted Sec. 5, which would designate the Census Bureau as the central agency for collection and compilation of general-purpose statistics.

7. WILDLIFE CONSERVATION. The Agriculture Committee reported without amendment H. R. 3821, to provide a minimum limit for each State under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife-Restoration Act and to transfer the administration of the projects to the States (H. Rept. 1943), and H. R. 6097, to make various amendments to the Act, including a requirement that when waters are to be impounded or

16. J. Hardin Peterson.
17. Thad F. Wasielewski.
18. Emily Taft Douglas.
19. Daniel J. Flood.
20. Victor Wickersham.
21. Charles R. Savage.
22. Jerry Voorhis.
23. Charles M. LaFollette.
24. Berkeley L. Bunker.
25. Paul H. Maloney.
26. M. M. Neely.
27. Philip A. Traynor.
28. Vito Marcantonio.
29. Thomas E. Morgan.
30. Ned R. Healy.
31. Robert F. Rich.
32. Ellis E. Patterson.
33. Frank T. Starkey.
34. Thomas D'Alesandro, Jr.
35. Wm. Lemke.
36. Harold H. Earthman.
37. James P. Geelan.
38. Herman P. Eberharter.
39. Lyle H. Boren.
40. Herman P. Kopplemann.
41. Helen Gahagan Douglas.
42. Hugh De Lacy.
43. Chet Holifield.
44. A. S. J. Carnahan.
45. Ray J. Madden.
46. W. A. Rowan.
47. George P. Miller.
48. William J. Gallagher.
49. W. W. Link.
50. Chas. A. Wolverton.
51. Pat Cannon.
52. Tom Murray.
53. L. Mendel Rivers.
54. Cleveland M. Bailey.
55. Carter Manasco.
56. W. K. Granger.
57. Carroll Reece.
58. Homer A. Ramey.
59. William C. Cole.
60. William G. Stigler.
61. John J. Rooney.
62. Gordon Canfield.
63. Thomas G. Abernethy.
64. Mike Mansfield.
65. Thomas J. Lane.
66. Henry D. Larcade, Jr.
67. Merlin Hull.
68. Ralph E. Church.
69. George B. Schwabe.
70. G. E. Outland.
71. W. A. Pittenger.
72. James J. Heffernan.
73. John J. Delaney.
74. Joe Hendricks.
75. Jed Johnson.
76. Lindley Beckworth.
77. Henry O. Talle.
78. Edward J. Hart.
79. Franck R. Havenner.
80. J. W. Trimble.
81. James Fulton.
82. Carl T. Curtis.
83. Frank A. Barrett.
84. Raymond S. Springer.
85. Jack Z. Anderson.
86. Arthur G. Klein.
87. Bartel J. Jonkman.
88. J. Harry McGregor.
89. Paul Stewart.
90. Chase Going Woodhouse.
91. William T. Granahan.
92. John J. Riley.
93. Herbert J. McGlinchey.
94. William H. Stevenson.
95. Joseph F. Ryter.
96. Gordon L. McDonough.
97. Frank B. Keefe.
98. Arthur Winstead.
99. Frank L. Chelf.
100. Robert K. Henry.
101. Clyde Doyle.
102. Reid F. Murray.
103. Wat Arnold.
104. Wesley A. D'Ewart.
105. Clarence Cannon.
106. Joseph R. Bryson.
107. John B. Sullivan.
108. Dudley G. Roe.
109. Augustus W. Bennet.
110. Thomas S. Gordon.
111. Hal. C. Hagen.
112. Joseph P. O'Hara.
113. Michael A. Feighan.
114. Edith Nourse Rogers.
115. Joseph E. Talbot.
116. Carl Vinson.
117. Jamie L. Whitten.
118. D. Emmert Brumbaugh.
119. Harve Tibbott.
120. Jimmy Morrison.
121. L. H. Gavin.
122. Francis Case.
123. Robt. F. Rockwell.
124. Henry J. Latham.
125. John E. Fogarty.
126. Carl Hinshaw.
127. J. W. Robinson.
128. Cecil R. King.
129. A. J. Elliott.
130. Richard J. Welch.
131. William S. Hill.
132. A. Leonard Allen.
133. Chas. R. Robertson.
134. H. Carl Andersen.
135. James Domengeaux.
136. Frank Carlson.
137. Frank E. Hook.
138. B. W. Kearney.
139. D. K. Hoch.
140. W. A. Barrett.
141. Walter H. Judd.
142. Louis Ludlow.
143. Albert Gore.
144. Albert M. Cole.
145. Henry M. Jackson.
146. Walter E. Brehm.
147. Alvin F. Weichel.
148. John Phillips.
149. T. Millet Hand.
150. Charles A. Plumley.
151. William J. Green, Jr.
152. A. M. Fernandez.
153. Paul Brown.
154. Everett M. Dirksen.
155. Aug. H. Andresen.
156. Walter B. Huber.
157. Ed. V. Izac.
158. Leo F. Rayfiel.
159. W. D. Mills.
160. Jennings Randolph.
161. Karl E. Mundt.
162. George G. Sadowski.
163. Edward O. McCowen.
164. George H. Fallon.
165. Eugene J. Keogh.
166. Donald L. O'Toole.
167. John H. Tolan.
168. Richard F. Harless.
169. Thomas A. Jenkins.
170. Alvin E. O'Konski.
171. J. P. Richards.
172. James J. Delaney.
173. Peter A. Quinn.
174. Gerald W. Landis.
175. Ben F. Jensen.
176. Noble J. Johnson.
177. P. W. Griffiths.
178. Henry C. Dworshak.
179. Howard E. Campbell.
180. Sherman Adams.
181. Edw. A. Kelley.
182. Walt. A. Lynch
183. Earl R. Lewis.
184. Sid Simpson.
185. Max Schwabe.
186. Earl Wilson.
187. J. Lindsay Almond, Jr.
188. Wm. W. Blackney.
189. Lawrence H. Smith.
190. Augustine D. Kelley.
191. George H. Bender.
192. Clair Engle.
193. Fadjo Cravens.
194. C. W. Bishop.
195. Frank W. Boykin.
196. Oren Harris.
197. William J. Byrne.
198. A. Sidney Camp.
199. Louis C. Rabaut.
200. Earle C. Clements.
201. Edward J. Gardner.
202. Walt Horan.
203. John M. Coffee.
204. Chester E. Merrow.
205. James A. Roe.
206. Ralph H. Daughton.
207. John W. Flannagan, Jr.
208. Edwin Arthur Hall.
209. Stephen Pace.
210. Ivor D. Fenton.
211. Alexander J. Resa.
212. George W. Gillie.
213. John S. Wood.
214. Joseph Clark Baldwin.
215. J. Glenn Beall.
216. Michael J. Bradley.
217. Roy O. Woodruff.
218. Evan Howell.

This motion was entered upon the Journal, entered in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD with signatures thereto, and referred to the Calendar of Motions to Discharge Committees, April 17, 1946.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON FLOOD CONTROL

(Thursday, April 18, 1946)

9. Thursday, April 18. Lt. Gen. R. A. Wheeler, Chief of Engineers, and other representatives of the Corps of Engineers, and proponents and opponents of projects in other regions.

10. Friday, April 19. Senators and Representatives in Congress, and Department of Agriculture, Weather Bureau, and other Government agencies.

COMMITTEE ON RIVERS AND HARBORS

Revised schedule of hearings on the omnibus river and harbor authorization bill to start Tuesday, April 9, 1946, at 10:30 a. m., is as follows:

(Wednesday and Thursday, May 1 and 2)

Tombigbee-Tennessee Rivers.

(Friday, May 3)

Held open for description of projects favorably recommended by the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors during its April meeting.

(Monday and Tuesday, May 6 and 7)

Big Sandy River, Tug and Levisa Forks, Va., W. Va., and Ky.

(Wednesday and Thursday, May 8 and 9)

Arkansas River, Ark., and Okla.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1216. A letter from the Acting Chairman, United States Maritime Commission, transmitting report of contracts entered into or modified under authority of Public Law 46, Seventy-seventh Congress, for the period beginning January 1, 1946, and ending March 31, 1946; to the Committee on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

1217. A letter from the Postmaster General, transmitting a draft of a proposed bill for the relief of certain postal employees; to the Committee on Claims.

1218. A letter from the Archivist of the United States, transmitting report on records proposed for disposal by various Government agencies; to the Committee on the Disposition of Executive Papers.

1219. A letter from the Attorney General, transmitting a report reciting the facts and pertinent provisions of law in the cases of 117 individuals whose deportation has been suspended for more than 6 months by the Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service under the authority vested in the Attorney General, together with a statement of the reason for such suspension; to the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. FLANNAGAN: Committee on Agriculture. H. R. 3821. A bill to amend sections 4 and 8 of the act of September 2, 1937, as amended, without amendment (Rept. No. 1943). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. FLANNAGAN: Committee on Agriculture. H. R. 6097. A bill to amend the act of March 10, 1934, entitled "An act to promote the conservation of wildlife, fish, and game, and for other purposes"; without amendment (Rept. No. 1944). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. ROE of Maryland: Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads. H. R. 5820. A bill relating to mail service on Lake Winnepesaukee, N. H.; without amendment (Rept. No. 1945). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. ELLIOTT: Joint Committee on the Disposition of Executive Papers. House Report No. 1953. Report on the disposition of certain papers of sundry executive departments. Ordered to be printed.

Mr. MANASCO: Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments. H. R. 6157. A bill to amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944 with reference to veterans' preference, and for other purposes; without amendment (Rept. No. 1954). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. COX: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 602. Resolution providing for the consideration of H. R. 754, a bill to amend section 301 (a) (1) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, and the first sentence of paragraph (1) of section 2 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933, as amended, and as reenacted and amended by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, approved June 3, 1937, as amended, so as to include the cost of all farm labor in determining the parity price of agricultural commodities; without amendment (Rept. No. 1956). Referred to the House Calendar.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. PITTENGER: Committee on Claims. H. R. 4142. A bill for the relief of Johnnie V. Nations; with amendment (Rept. No. 1946). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Mr. FERNANDEZ: Committee on Claims. H. R. 4172. A bill for the relief of Carlton G. Jerry; without amendment (Rept. No. 1947). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Mr. McGEHEE: Committee on Claims. H. R. 4298. A bill for the relief of Severo Apoluna Dinson and Candilaria Dinson, and the legal guardian of Lura Dinson and the legal guardian of Teresita Dinson; with amendment (Rept. No. 1948). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Mr. STIGLER: Committee on Claims. H. R. 4301. A bill for the relief of Philip Naope Kaili and Susie Kaili; with amendment (Rept. No. 1949). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Mr. HEDRICK: Committee on Claims. H. R. 4338. A bill for the relief of Anna Blanchard and others; with amendment (Rept. No. 1950). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Mr. PITTENGER: Committee on Claims. H. R. 4763. A bill for the relief of R. L. Benton; with amendment (Rept. No. 1951). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Mr. BARRETT of Pennsylvania: Committee on Claims. H. R. 5152. A bill for the relief of Mary Elizabeth Powers; with amendment (Rept. No. 1952). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. HOLMES of Washington:

H. R. 6165. A bill to provide for the preparation of a membership roll of the Indians of the Yakima Reservation, Wash., and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. ROE of Maryland:

H. R. 6166. A bill to authorize the Chief of Engineers to make a survey as to the advisability of dredging out Little Creek, Kent Island, Queen Annes County, Md.; to the Committee on Rivers and Harbors.

H. R. 6167. A bill to authorize the Chief of Engineers to make a survey as to the advisability of establishing jetties at Tedious Creek, Dorchester County, Md.; to the Committee on Rivers and Harbors.

By Mr. SMITH of Virginia (by request):

H. R. 6168. A bill to authorize certain expenditures from the appropriation of St. Elizabeths Hospital; to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

H. R. 6169. A bill to authorize the use of Freedmen's Hospital appropriations for certain expenditures; to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

By Mr. RANDOLPH:

H. R. 6170. A bill to amend the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944; to the Committee on the Civil Service.

By Mr. BARTLETT:

H. R. 6171. A bill to amend the act of June 29, 1936, to provide increased retirement benefits for certain employees of the Alaska Railroad; to the Committee on the Civil Service.

H. R. 6172. A bill to amend section 35 of the Mineral Leasing Act of February 25, 1920 (41 Stat. 437, 30 U. S. C. sec. 191), as amended; to the Committee on the Public Lands.

By Mr. RANKIN:

H. R. 6173. A bill to amend certain provisions of the National Service Life Insurance Act of 1940, as amended, and for other purposes; to the Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation.

By Mr. LEMKE:

H. R. 6174. A bill to provide assignment of a section of the 50-megacycle band of radio frequencies for frequency modulation (FM); to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

By Mr. LANE:

H. R. 6175. A bill to credit to active and retired officers of the Medical Department of the Army all service performed as interns in Army hospitals on a civilian employee status; to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

By Mr. PACE:

H. R. 6176. A bill to amend further the Civil Service Retirement Act, approved May 29, 1930, as amended; to the Committee on the Civil Service.

By Mr. PHILLIPS:

H. R. 6177. A bill granting to the Imperial Irrigation District certain lands of the United States in the counties of Imperial, Riverside, and San Diego, in the State of California; to the Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation.

By Mrs. ROGERS:

H. R. 6178. A bill to provide for the coverage of barbiturates under the Federal narcotic laws; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SIKES:

H. R. 6179. A bill to provide for terminal-leave pay for enlisted service in the armed forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. BROOKS:

H. R. 6193. A bill to provide for terminal-leave pay for enlisted service in the armed forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. CANNON of Missouri:

H. J. Res. 342. House joint resolution making additional appropriations for the fiscal year 1946 to pay increased compensation authorized by law to officers and employees of sundry Federal and other agencies; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. PATTERSON:

H. Con. Res. 144. Concurrent resolution on restatement of civilian and military authority; to the Committee on Military Affairs.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 1 of rule XXII, private bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. BUCKLEY:

H. R. 6180. A bill for the relief of the Sun Laundry Corp.; to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. BARRETT of Pennsylvania:

H. R. 6181. A bill for the relief of Lillian Jamgochian and John Jamgochian; to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. GATHINGS:

H. R. 6182. A bill for the relief of J. W. Cox, M. D.; to the Committee on Claims.

H. R. 6183. A bill for the relief of W. W. Cox; to the Committee on Claims.

H. R. 6184. A bill for the relief of G. W. Cox; to the Committee on Claims.

H. R. 6185. A bill for the relief of F. T. Cox; to the Committee on Claims.

H. R. 6186. A bill for the relief of J. M. Cox; to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr HINSHAW:

H. R. 6187. A bill for the relief of Edward L. Barreras; to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. LEMKE:

H. R. 6188. A bill for the relief of Frank J. Patzke, Archie Mitchell, J. L. Shoemaker, Einar Engen, and N. L. Gifford; to the Committee on Claims.

79TH CONGRESS } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES { REPORT
2d Session } { No. 1954

VETERANS' PREFERENCE FOR SURPLUS PROPERTY

APRIL 17, 1946.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. MANASCO, from the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 6157]

The Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 6157) to amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944 with reference to veterans' preference, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

The primary purpose of this bill is to amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944 in such a way as to improve the position of veterans in purchasing surplus property.

The committee held several weeks of hearings on various bills to give veterans a higher priority in the acquisition of surplus property. We heard representatives of the various owning agencies, and also representatives of the War Assets Administration. We found that under the system of veterans having to be certified by the Smaller War Plants Corporation, that over 570,000 veterans were certified and given preference in the purchase of automotive equipment if and when made available to the veterans. The most optimistic estimate of further declaration of surplus automotive equipment is less than 50,000 vehicles, including passenger cars, jeeps, trucks, etc. Veterans, today, would purchase over 3,000,000 passenger automobiles and trucks if available.

The passage of this bill will not mean that all veterans can get what they want. Where one veteran gets a passenger automobile, there will be thousands who cannot get one for the simple reason that there just won't be enough surplus vehicles.

We do not think it practicable or possible to set up a system of priorities as among veterans themselves. The War Assets Administration cannot meet all the demands. Members of Congress will still receive a great amount of criticism from disappointed veterans who

may think that the passage of this bill will assure all of them an opportunity to acquire the surplus property they desire. We are attempting to see that the surplus property desired by the veterans falls into the hands of the veterans, although the number to receive surplus property will be small compared with the large number of ex-servicemen. In all probability, unscrupulous persons and organizations will use the veterans as fronts to acquire surplus property. They are subject to heavy penalties under existing laws.

The committee feels that it is most important to sell the surplus property at the earliest possible date. There is a great demand for many types of surplus property not now available to the consuming public. If the majority of the property can be disposed of within the next 8 or 10 months, it will not affect civilian production, and will not have the effect of depressing markets of our civilian producers, thereby causing shut-downs and unemployment. Rapid sales of consumer goods will have great bearing on holding down inflationary trends. Rapid sales will also reduce to the minimum administrative costs of care, handling, warehousing, and distribution of surplus property, and result in a far greater recovery for the taxpayers.

The bill improves the position of veterans in the following three ways:

(1) The Administrator is authorized to set aside or otherwise make available such quantities and types of surplus property as he may determine appropriate for exclusive disposal to veterans for their own personal use and to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprise. This set-aside is made without regard to any other priority otherwise provided for in the Surplus Property Act.

This provision is not designed to require the Administrator to set up retail outlets for all of the various types of surplus property that may be desired by veterans for their personal use or business. Where, however, a type of property lends itself to economical disposal to individual veterans and is a type particularly desired by veterans, the Administrator in his sole discretion may order a set-aside of as much of this property as he determines to be appropriate for exclusive disposal to veterans. Certain types of motor vehicles, for instance, may well be subject to a set-aside. However, the Administrator must not be forced to put the disposal agencies into the haberdashery business and this is not intended by the bill.

Motor vehicles are not mentioned at random; this type of equipment constitutes a very substantial portion of the veterans' requests and is a type of property that lends itself to individual purchases. This provision should materially aid veterans to acquire what they want.

(2) Another important aspect of this amendment is to raise the general position of veterans to acquire surplus property for their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. The Surplus Property Act directs the Administrator to establish suitable preferences for this purpose. The existing law grants priorities, first, to Government agencies; and, second, to States and political subdivisions and instrumentalities. Veterans cannot be served until the requirements of these agencies have been satisfied. The amendment transforms this vague preference contained in the present act into a mandatory priority and places it directly after the priority to Government agencies. This should make much more surplus property available

to veterans to aid them in earning a livelihood. It cannot, of course, satisfy completely the requirements of veterans when the demand far exceeds the supply, particularly in the case of short or critical items. Your committee understands that the War Assets Administration is striving to process critical items first, but even with the vast quantities of property recently declared surplus, the inventories just do not contain items in the type or quantity sufficient to meet the desires of veterans.

(3) One of the most discouraging situations confronting the veterans is to be afforded an opportunity to purchase surplus property, only to find that prior claimants have exhausted the available supply. The set-aside and the raising of the veterans' general priority position will tend to alleviate this condition. The veterans' position is also improved by the amendment to 18 (e) of the Surplus Property Act. Under the latter section of existing law the Smaller War Plants Corporation (now Reconstruction Finance Corporation) is authorized to exercise the priority accorded Government agencies in purchasing surplus property for resale to small business. Although such purchases are to be made only—

> when in its judgment, such disposition is required to preserve and strengthen the competitive position of small business or will assist the Corporation in the discharge of the duties and responsibilities imposed upon it—

these purchases have, in the past, resulted in substantially reducing the supply of surplus property otherwise available to veterans. The amendment does not affect the authority to make purchases under section 18 (e) of the Surplus Property Act, but it does make it clear that they shall be made after the general priority for veterans but ahead of the priority for States, political subdivisions, and instrumentalities. In other words, the veteran should be helped first to establish and maintain his own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprise.

It has come to the attention of your committee at hearings that large quantities of surplus property have been exchanged between Government agencies without regard to appropriations. Section 34 (a) of the Surplus Property Act states that—

> the authority conferred by this Act is in addition to any authority conferred by any other law and shall not be subject to the provisions of any law inconsistent herewith.

It has been contended that laws allowing transfers without reimbursement or transfers of funds are not inconsistent with the Surplus Property Act because section 12 (e) of the act requires disposal agencies to transfer surplus property to a Government agency acquiring it at the fair value of the property as fixed by the disposal agency "unless transfer without reimbursement or transfer of funds is otherwise authorized by law." This interpretation of the Surplus Property Act allows Government agencies to comb the books and utilize whatever obscure law may serve their purpose of making acquisitions without paying for them. Your committee feels that the Congress should take stock and review to what extent these transfers without reimbursement should be allowed.

Accordingly the bill provides that no Government agency may transfer any property to any other Government agency without reimbursement or transfer of funds under authority of any law approved prior to June 22, 1944, but only under laws approved thereafter.

The date June 22, 1944, was chosen to allow transfers by the War and Navy Departments of hospitals and hospital equipment and supplies to the Veterans' Administration without reimbursement as provided in the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 which was approved on that date. But indiscriminate transfers without reimbursement between other agencies, including those between the War and Navy Departments, will be stopped by this bill.

To improve the veterans' position in acquiring surplus property and to accomplish the other purposes set forth in this report, your committee recommends passage of H. R. 6157.

EXPLANATION OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Section 1 of H. R. 6157 amends section 16 of the Surplus Property Act by requiring the Administrator to prescribe regulations to aid veterans in the acquisition of surplus property to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. These disposals are, in subsection 16 (a), given priority over all other disposals except transfers to Government agencies under section 12. This is the general priority for veterans.

Section 1 of the bill also adds a subsection 16 (b) to the Surplus Property Act. This subsection provides the Administrator with the authority to establish set-asides of types and quantities of surplus property for exclusive disposal to veterans without regard to any priorities. This subsection requires the Administrator to give due consideration to the availability of adequate facilities to make these disposals and to the costs of distribution. Information as to the quantities and types of property available is required to be widely publicized.

A subsection 16 (c) is also added to the Surplus Property Act by section 1 of the bill which requires a period of at least 15 days after public notice during which property offered to veterans, either under the set-aside or through the general priority, shall be held for disposal to them.

Section 2 of the bill amends section 12 (a) of the Surplus Property Act by making it clear that the governmental priority is subordinated to set-asides for veterans. It limits the governmental priority to those agencies which acquire property for their own use and excludes acquisitions by Government agencies for the purpose of making transfers or dispositions to others. Purchases for resale to small business under section 18 (c) are not excluded by this provision, however, because specific authority to make these purchases still remains. Government agencies are, however, required to act diligently in order to expedite disposals; to this end the subsection allows the Administrator to set a reasonable time, not exceeding 20 days from public notice, within which governmental priorities must be exercised.

Section 3 of the bill amends section 12 (c) of the Surplus Property Act by limiting transfers between Government agencies without reimbursement or transfer of funds to cases authorized by subsection 12 (d).

Section 4 of the bill adds subsection 12 (d) to the Surplus Property Act. This subsection limits the authority of Government agencies under any law approved prior to June 22, 1944, to transfer any property without reimbursement or transfer of funds. Such transfers of

property under laws approved subsequent to that date, however, are authorized.

Section 5 of the bill amends subsection 13 (f) of the Surplus Property Act to establish the position of the priority to States and political subdivisions and instrumentalities to be subsequent to those provided for Government agencies, veterans and purchases for small business under section 18 (e) of the act.

Section 6 of the bill establishes the priority position of purchases under section 18 (e) of the act as coming after the general priorities to veterans.

○

Union Calendar No. 567

79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6157

[Report No. 1954]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 16, 1946

Mr. MANASCO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments

APRIL 17, 1946

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

---

A BILL

To amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944 with reference to veterans' preference, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 16 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"DISPOSITIONS TO VETERANS

"SEC. 16. (a) The Administrator shall prescribe regulations to effectuate the objectives of this Act to aid veterans in the acquisition of surplus property, in appropriate quantities and types, to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises.

Disposals of surplus property (except real property) to veterans under this subsection shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this Act except transfers to Government agencies under section 12.

"(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12 of this Act, the Administrator may cause to be set aside or otherwise to be made available quantities and types of any surplus property, except real property, which he determines to be appropriate for exclusive disposal to veterans for their own personal use, and to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. The Administrator shall prescribe regulations designed to achieve the equitable distribution of such surplus property among veterans. In selecting any types or quantities of surplus property for disposal in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, the Administrator shall give due consideration to the availability of adequate facilities for and the costs of the distribution of such property. The Administrator shall from time to time cause to be compiled and widely publicized information as to the types and quantities of such surplus property which has or will become available within a given period of time for exclusive disposal to veterans in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

"(c) The Administrator shall prescribe a reasonable

time of not less than 15 days after public notice during which property offered to veterans under this section shall be held for disposal to them."

SEC. 2. Section 12 (a) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"(a) It shall be the duty of the Administrator to facilitate the transfer of surplus property from one Government agency to other Government agencies for their own use and not for transfer or disposition; and the transfer of surplus property under this section shall be given priority over all other disposals provided for in this Act, except disposals to veterans of property reserved exclusively for veterans under subsection (b) of section 16 of this Act. The Administrator shall prescribe a reasonable time within which Government agencies shall exercise the priority provided by this subsection, but the time so fixed shall not exceed twenty days from the time public notice is given of the availability of the surplus property for disposal to Government agencies."

SEC. 3. Section 12 (c) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"(c) The disposal agency responsible for any such property shall transfer it to the Government agency acquiring it at the fair value of the property as fixed by the disposal agency, under regulations prescribed by the Administrator,

unless transfer without reimbursement or transfer of funds is authorized under subsection (d) of this section."

SEC. 4. Section 12 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended by adding a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

"(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 34 (a) of this Act, no Government agency may transfer any property to any other Government agency without reimbursement or transfer of funds under authority of any law approved prior to June 22, 1944. Any disposal agency may transfer surplus property to a Government agency without reimbursement or transfer of funds whenever a transfer on such terms by the owning agency (by which such property was declared surplus) would be authorized by any law approved subsequent to June 21, 1944, to be made to the Government agency desiring such property."

SEC. 5. Section 13 (f) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"(f) The disposal of surplus property under this section to States and political subdivisions and instrumentalities thereof shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this Act, except transfers to Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16 and purchases made under subsection (e) of section 18: *Provided*, That the Administrator may pre-

scribe a reasonable time during which such priority shall be exercised."

SEC. 6. The last sentence of subsection (e) of section 18 thereof is hereby amended to read as follows: "The disposal of surplus property under this subsection shall be given priority immediately following transfers to other Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16. The provisions of subsection (c) of section 12 shall be applicable to purchases made under this subsection."

Union Calendar No. 567

79TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6157

[Report No. 1954]

A BILL

To amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944 with reference to veterans' preference, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MANASCO

APRIL 16, 1946

Referred to the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments

APRIL 17, 1946

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

DIGEST OF CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS
OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Legislative Reports and Service Section
(For Department staff only)

Issued April 19, 1946
For actions of April 18, 1946
79th-2nd, No. 72

CONTENTS

Adjournment.....10
Appropriations.....2,4,11
Bankruptcy.....12
Clothing prices.....15
Congressional organization..32
Cooperatives.....8
Dairy industry.....25
Farm machinery.....26
Farm production.....24
Fertilizers.....30
Flood control..... 4
Forestry.....18,29
Fruits & vegetables.....25
Grain.....6,14
Housing.....33
Irrigation.....9
Minerals..... 8
Livestock and meat...13,25
Loans, foreign.....16,
Loans, housing.....21
Personnel.....2,19
Price control..1,7,13,14,25
Property, surplus.....5,28
Purchasing.....17
Reclamation.....9,22
Relief, foreign.....27
Research.....20
Salaries..... 2
Subsidies.....1,13,24
Trade, foreign..... 3
Transportation.....23,31
Wage stabilization.....11

HIGHLIGHTS: House passed price-control bill. Both Houses passed appropriation for Federal pay costs; ready for President. House agreed to conference report on Philippine trade bill; ready for President. House passed bill to make veterans' preference for surplus property next to Federal Government's. Rep. Voorhis spoke against grain for alcohol. Rep. LaFollette spoke in favor of farm cooperatives' claims for continental-shelf oil and inserted statements from big 4 farm organizations. Senate received appropriation estimate of $400,000 for farm-wage stabilization. Sen. Ferguson inserted OPA Advisory Committee's recommendation for removal of price control and subsidies on livestock and meat. Sen. Thomas (Okla.) submitted amendment to prohibit price control and other orders regarding farm products and to prohibit grain allocations without USDA approval. House adjourned until Apr. 30.

HOUSE

1. PRICE CONTROL; SUBSIDIES. Passed, 355-42, with amendments H. R. 6042, the price-control and subsidies extension bill (pp. 4051-4). Rejected, 20-370, a motion by Rep. Rankin, Miss., to recommit the bill (p. 4053). The bill, as amended, is printed in the Record (pp. 4051-3). Correction in roll call (p. 4090.

2. PAY-COST APPROPRIATIONS. Both houses passed without amendment H. J. Res. 342, which appropriates funds for 1946 costs under the Federal Employees Pay Act of 1945 (pp. 4054-61, 4047-8). This measure will now be sent to the President. It is identical with Title II of H. R. 5890, the second deficiency appropriation bill, which is now pending in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

3. PHILIPPINE TRADE BILL. Agreed to the conference report on this bill, H. R. 5856 (pp. 4061-2). This bill will now be sent to the President. Yesterday's Digest should have stated that the House received the report rather than that it agreed to it.

4. WAR DEPARTMENT CIVIL APPROPRIATION BILL. Agreed to the conference report on this bill, H. R. 5400, which includes flood-control appropriations for the War Department (pp. 4062-72). The Senate has not received the report.

5. SURPLUS PROPERTY. Passed S. 1757, to broaden veterans' preference in connection with surplus-property disposal, with an amendment substituting the language of H. R. 6157 (pp. 4075-80). For provisions see Digest 71.

6. GRAIN SHORTAGE; ALCOHOL. Rep. Voorhis, Calif., spoke against use of grain for alcohol during the shortage; inserted a letter from the Treasury Department transmitting tables showing grain used by distillers and other alcohol plants,

and presented petitions on the subject (pp. 4088, 4101).

7. PRICE CONTROL. Rep. Mansfield, Mont., expressed the hope that the Senate will "do a better job" with the price-control bill (p. 4075).

8. MINERALS; COOPERATIVES. Rep. La Follette, Ind., spoke in favor of permitting farm cooperatives to claim continental-shelf oil reserves and inserted statements on the subject by the Farm Bureau, Grange, Union, and Co-op Council (pp. 4090-6).

9. WATER COMPACT. The Irrigation and Reclamation Committee reported with amendment H. R. 4510, granting Congressional consent and approval in connection with a Colo.-N. Mex. compact regarding Costilla Creek waters (H. Rept. 1960)(p. 4100).

10. ADJOURNED until Tues., Apr. 30 (pp. 4048, 4084, 4098). Majority Leader McCormack stated that no controversial legislation is to come up before May 2, when the State, Justice, Commerce appropriation bill will be considered.

SENATE

11. APPROPRIATIONS; WAGE STABILIZATION. Received from the President a supplemental appropriation estimate of $400,000 for the agricultural wage stabilization program, 1947, with language to continue the program in the absence of other enabling legislation (S. Doc. 171) (p. 4023).

12. FARM BANKRUPTCY. Sens. McCarran, Hendrickson, and Revercomb were appointed conferees on H. R. 5504, to continue the Farm Bankruptcy Act (pp. 4046-7). House conferees were appointed Apr. 17.

13. LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERING CONTROLS. Sen. Ferguson, Mich., inserted an OPA Advisory Committee on Cattle, Hogs, Beef, and Pork resolution recommending removal of price controls and subsidies from livestock and meat (p. 4024).

14. PRICE CONTROL. Sen. Thomas, Okla., submitted an amendment which he intends to proposed to S. 2028, to prohibit issuance of regulations, price schedules, orders, etc. on rationing, allocation, priorities, or prices on agricultural commodities and to prohibit grain allocations for alcohol or alcoholic beverages unless made by written approval of the Secretary of Agriculture (.4026).

Sen. Gossett, Idaho, criticized OPA administration and inserted an Amalgamated Sugar Co.'s letter protesting the shortage of cotton-fiber cloth needed for sugar refining (p. 4046).

15. CLOTHING PRICES. Sen. Maybank, S.C., criticized increased clothing prices, opposed OPA continuation, and inserted a newspaper article on this subject (pp. 4027-8).

16. BRITISH LOAN. Continued debate on S. J. Res. 138, to authorize the loan to Great Britain (pp. 4030-46).

Sen. Capehart, Ind., inserted an Allen County (Ind.) Republican Club resolution opposing the loan to Great Britain (p. 4024).

BILLS INTRODUCED

17. CONTRACT SETTLEMENT. S. 2079, by Sen. Wiley, Wis., to amend the act "relating to contract settlement. To Military Affairs Committee. (p. 4025.)

18. FORESTRY. H. R. 6201, by Rep. Douglas, Calif., to create the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Redwood Forest. To Agriculture Committee. (p. 4100.)

19. PERSONNEL; RETIREMENT. H.R. 6206, by Rep. Lyle, Tex., to remove restrictions on the holding by retired officers of certain civilian offices and positions. To Judiciary Committee. (p. 4100.)

20. RESEARCH; ATOMIC ENERGY. H. R. 6197, by Rep. Biemiller, Wis., for the development and control of atomic energy. To Military Affairs Committee. (p. 4100.)

21. LOANS; HOUSING. H. R. 6205, by Rep. Wolcott, Mich., to establish a Federal Home Loan Board, to further encourage home ownership, and to assist in the provision of rental housing. To Banking and Currency Committee. (p. 4100.)

ITEMS IN APPENDIX

22. RECLAMATION. Extension of remarks of Rep. Voorhis, Calif., favoring the inclusion of the Kings River (Calif.) Dam under the provisions of the reclamation laws (pp. A2423-4).

23. TRANSPORTATION. Extension of remarks of Rep. Hagen, Minn., favoring expansion of air transportation as a benefit to the farmer and including Edward A.O'Neal's (American Farm Bureau Federation) article pointing out the value of the aviation industry to the farmer (pp. A2424-5).

24. FARM PRODUCTION; SUBSIDIES. Extension of remarks of Rep. Robsion, Ky., opposing subsidies and favoring the adjustment of farm prices to include the cost of production and a reasonable profit (pp. A2426-8).

Rep. McGregor, Ohio, inserted the results of a poll in his district which indicated that 87% of the people polled opposed government subsidies (p. 2429).

25. PRICE CONTROL. Rep. Wasielewski, Wis., inserted a Milwaukee Journal article criticizing OPA's administration of meat controls (p. A2406).

Rep. Douglas, Calif., inserted a Washington Post editorial, "Murder of the OPA" (p. 2407).

Rep. Biemiller, Wis., inserted a Milwaukee Journal editorial commending the OPA for restoring controls on cream and meat (pp. A2412-3).

Extension of remarks of Rep. Sharp, N.Y., favoring the extension of price control with amendments to regulate the OPA (p. A2416).

Extension of remarks of Rep. Phillips, Calif., favoring amendments to the Price Control Act to provide a fair price for fruits, vegetables, and milk (p. A2433).

26. FARM MACHINERY. Rep. Smith, Wis., inserted a Beloit (Wis.) Daily News editorial criticizing the strike settlement at International Harvester Co. as forcing the farmer to pay a higher price for farm machinery (pp. A2415-6).

27. FOREIGN RELIEF. Rep. Doyle, Calif., inserted a Press Telegram (Long Beach, Calif.) editorial calling for support of the President's emergency-food-relief program (p. A2414).

Rep. Luce Conn., inserted letters and a newspaper article urging cooperation in providing food for Europe (pp. A2417-8).

Extension of remarks of Rep. Patterson, Calif., urging that more food be made available for relief in Europe (p. A2423).

Extension of remarks of Rep. Douglas, Calif., including Herbert H. Lehman's speech before the National Citizens Political Action Committee, on the need for foreign-relief food (pp. A2405-6).

. SURPLUS PROPERTY. Extension of remarks of Rep. Johnson, Tex., favoring H.R.6157, to give veterans priority second only to the Federal Government in the purchase of surplus property (p. A2423).

. LUMBER SHORTAGE. Rep. Worley, Tex., inserted letters from Tex. lumber dealers complaining that lumber and building materials are not available to them because of black-market operations (pp. A2431-2).

. FERTILIZERS. Sen. LaFollette, Wis., inserted Emil Troug's (Wis. Univ.) letter and statement on potash and other fertilizers in relation to food production in Wis. (pp. A2391-2).

. ST. LAWRENCE WATERWAY. Sen. Langer, N.Dak., inserted a Youngstown (Ohio) Vindicator and a Detroit News editorial favoring this project (pp. A2397, A2398).

. CONGRESSIONAL REORGANIZATION. Extension of remarks of Rep. Plumley, Vt., favoring, in general, the recommendations in the report of the Joint Committee on the Organization of Congress and announcing that Sen. LaFollette, Wis., plans to introduce an omnibus bill embodying the Committee's recommendation in a few days (pp. A2436-7).

. HOUSING. Extension of remarks of Rep. Patterson, Calif., favoring subsidies on housing (pp. A2438-9).

Rep. Shafer, Mich., inserted Lewis H. Brown's (pres. Johns-Manville Corp.) article criticizing the Wyatt housing plan and claiming that fair prices for building materials would encourage adequate production without subsidies (pp. A2439-40).

- o -

MITTEE-HEARINGS ANNOUNCEMENTS for Apr. 19: H. Flood Control, 1946 bill (USDA representatives); S. Education and Labor, health bill; S. Appropriations, 2nd deficiency bill (ex.); S. Investigate Defense Program, surplus property disposal; S. Interstate Commerce, Bulwinkle transportation bill.

- o -

or supplemental information and copies of legislative material referred to, call xt. 4654, or send to Room 113 Adm. Arrangements may be made to be kept advised, routinely, of developments on any particular bill.

- oOo -

functions appropriation bill, 1947, conference report.)

PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE HOUSE

Mr. BUFFETT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend my remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

EXCESS-PROFITS TAX

Mr. BUFFETT. Mr. Speaker, the House yesterday indicated its determination to restore the American industrial profit and loss system. This decision should lead to full production.

As a supplement the Congress might well reinstate, for 1946 and 1947, 50 percent of the wartime excess profits tax. This tax would prevent profiteering on war-accumulated demand. It would be an effective brake on prices.

If the profits that some people are so worried about should develop, this tax would bring them into the Treasury where they could be used in the real fight against inflation.

This tax would be anti-inflationary. It would discourage profiteering and increase government revenues.

I am introducing a bill directing the Ways and Means Committee to take action toward this end. The House should consider carefully the value of this move as a genuine anti-inflationary measure.

PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE HOUSE

Mr. MANSFIELD of Montana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend my remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Montana?

There was no objection.

OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION

Mr. MANSFIELD of Montana. Mr. Speaker, for the past 3 days, like my friend and colleague from Nebraska [Mr. BUFFETT], I have been in this Chamber listening to all the debates on the extension of the Office of Price Administration, and I am indeed sorry to note the confusing and hamstrung measure which has just been approved by this House and presented to the American people.

We have had all kinds of pressure put upon us by organized groups both for and against the continuation of the OPA, but my thoughts have been about the great unorganized groups of Americans who have to live on fixed incomes in the form of salaries and wages which have not been increased and in the forms of pensions, annuities, and savings which do not advance with the cost of living. It was my opinion, in spite of the fact that the OPA has not worked perfectly, as, for example, in the kangaroo-court system and fines for minor infractions, which should have been corrected, that some reasonable, sound extension would be passed by this Congress whereby not only this great unorganized group but all groups would be given the assurance that price control would be retained in a way beneficial to them and to our economy. However, such has not been the case because with all those crippling amendments we have a shell and not a structure to hold the line against inflation. Only 33 Members on a teller vote on yesterday voted to eliminate the OPA entirely, which indicates that the greater majority of this body feels that the OPA should have been retained.

I do not want to see and certainly would not vote for a continuation of the OPA if I thought its usefulness had been outlived, but I do want to see some sort of price control in operation until the matter of supply and demand have been met. To my way of thinking that is the real test, and when that time is reached, OPA should be abolished. If some control is not maintained until supply and demand is met, it will mean prices will rise tremendously; more demands for higher wages will result; strikes will increase; confusion will result; the people in the middle will be squeezed and eventually all of us will suffer from the full effects of inflation. These crippling amendments which we have passed will, in my opinion, open the gates of inflation and to a repetition of the wild days following the First World War. The consuming public of this country deserves better treatment than this bill gives it and, in my opinion, the bill in its present form will be unworkable and detrimental to the best interests of the American economy. With no control, prices will skyrocket and then we will have a collapse.

I am hopeful that the Senate will do a better job with this bill when it reaches the other Chamber, because our only hope now for a workable, fair, and equitable extension of the OPA lies with that body. In my opinion, the House has made a sorry showing in its consideration of this bill and has been influenced too much by pressure groups, each of which had a certain interest to consider and each of which in this respect was working contrary to the welfare of the American people as a whole. This is a day the American people will long remember.

SURPLUS PROPERTY ACT OF 1944

Mr. MANASCO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the bill (H. R. 6157) to amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944 with reference to veterans' preference, and for other purposes.

Mr. RANKIN. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and, of course, I shall not object, will the gentleman explain the bill?

Mr. MANASCO. This bill is the result of several weeks of hearings by the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments in an effort to correct a situation that has existed not because of the maladministration of the War Assets Administration but because of the law itself that we passed about 2 years ago. At that time the veterans were given preference after your Federal agencies, your State, county, and local political subdivisions, schools and eleemosynary institutions had been satisfied. We found that the preference amounted to almost nothing as far as the veteran was concerned. We have had many cases where the veterans have been asked to appear at these sales, but when they got there the property had already been sold to priority holders.

Mr. RANKIN. The gentleman means that this relates to surplus property?

Mr. MANASCO. Yes. That was not necessarily the fault of the War Assets Administration, but these priority holders came in and claimed the surpluses, and there was nothing that the War Assets Administration could do about it.

In this bill we are raising the veterans' preferences on a par with Federal agencies. The Administrator is authorized to set aside a certain amount of surplus when declared surplus for the veterans. They are given not less than 15 days after notice to purchase these surpluses. The Federal agencies are given 20 days to acquire the surpluses in the amount set aside for them, and they cannot come in and exercise the Federal preference after the expiration of 20 days.

Mr. RANKIN. In other words, it gives the veterans the preference we understood we were giving them in the beginning.

Mr. MANASCO. I do not believe we understood we were giving the veteran a higher preference.

Mr. RANKIN. But this does give him a higher preference?

Mr. MANASCO. This does give him a higher preference. I might say that this bill will not mean that every veteran in the United States will get a truck or a car, because we just do not have that many, but it will mean that a veteran will be given an opportunity to get this surplus property.

Mr. KEFAUVER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. KEFAUVER. May I ask the gentleman from Alabama what provision is being made as to division of the surplus property between the veterans and the general public?

Mr. MANASCO. We did not fix any particular percentage. The veterans are more interested in trucks, automobiles, and materials to establish small businesses.

Mr. KEFAUVER. But as to that part which is set aside for veterans, they have the first priority?

Mr. MANASCO. They have the only priority until at least 15 days have expired after notice to the veterans.

Mr. KEFAUVER. I commend the gentleman and his committee for bringing out this legislation. I know from my own experience that veterans in my district have had the same difficulty as the gentleman has described. I think it is high time that something be done about it.

Mr. ELLIOTT. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. ELLIOTT. This bill will immediately correct the situation and save for the veterans and people who need them very badly about 10,000 tractors that were being prepared to be shipped abroad. The way the program has been working, our own Federal Government could purchase this equipment, having

the first priority, and then turn around and furnish other countries the equipment we need so badly here. At the present time we have about 10,000 new tractors that this bill will make it possible to keep here on this side of the pond and provide for the veterans, municipalities, and everybody else who needs them so badly.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield to the gentleman from South Dakota.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. It seems to me there is some question as to whether or not this bill is going to accomplish what it proposes to do. Yesterday I was talking with a person who is very familiar with this tractor matter to which the gentleman from California referred. He also has been investigating the surplus property situation throughout the country. He says it is not the States necessarily that are getting this property ahead of the veterans, but it is the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, which exercises a Federal priority and purchases items through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation or through the Small Business Corporation. Then when the veteran comes in he finds the material gone. I have talked with several veterans who have gone to depots at various points, and they have gotten in there first. I have talked with one man who was a representative of a State agency. He assumed that he would have a priority, but when he got there he found that the material was gone. Investigation revealed that it is the Federal Government itself through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation or the Small Business Corporation that exercises the priorities. Then some of this material is sold to them or somebody acting as agents for these corporations and then the stuff turns up in the hands of some dealer or some individual.

Mr. RANKIN. The gentleman from Alabama [Mr. MANASCO] is going to point out that there is a provision in the bill that takes care of that situation.

Mr. MANASCO. Section 6 of the bill reads as follows in the last sentence:

> Subsection (e) of section 18 thereof is hereby amended to read as follows: 'The disposal of surplus property under this subsection shall be given priority immediately following transfers to other Government agencies under section 12 and disposed to veterans under section 16."

That is the section that the Smaller War Plants Corporation has been purchasing the surpluses under and it moves them after the veterans.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. It moves them after the veterans?

Mr. MANASCO. Yes.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Does that apply to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation also?

Mr. MANASCO. That is right.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. I am glad to have that information. I pointed that out because it seems to me that was a loophole that merely placing them under the State agencies would not correct.

Mr. JUDD. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. JUDD. During the hearings on this bill we found out something that most of us did not know when we passed the Surplus Property Act. We wanted to help small business and so we made it possible for anyone wanting to start up a small business to go to the Smaller War Plants Corporation and it would get him surplus property on its No. 1 priority as a Federal agency. That was much higher than a veteran priority. So the veteran, if he was smart when he wanted to go into business, would not try to qualify as a veteran but would go to the Smaller War Plants Corporation as an ordinary citizen and get to use its No. 1 priority. In this bill we change that so that first come the Federal Government and the veterans on a par. The Administrator can set aside property that he knows veterans are likely to want and he has to hold it for them for 15 days after publicity is given. Only then can he make it available even for Federal agencies. Next, after the veterans and the Federal Government, come men wanting surplus property for small business, and then the States and municipalities and thereafter charitable and educational institutions. I believe, therefore, this bill will correct one of the defects in the act and make possible the giving of that advantage to the veteran which all of us wanted when we passed the original bill.

Mr. MANSFIELD of Montana. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield to the gentleman from Montana.

Mr. MANSFIELD of Montana. I should like to call to the attention of the chairman of the committee what has come to my attention. There is a practice going on throughout the United States whereby dealers and other interested people are using veterans to attend surplus property sales and use their priority to buy trucks and cars which the veterans in turn sell back to the dealer. It seems to me that that is getting around the veterans' preference and that it is giving preference to the dealers instead of the veterans who deserve first consideration. Surely something should be done to protect the veterans who are entitled to preference and who need this equipment for their own personal and business use. Does this bill in any way take care of that evasive and illegal procedure?

Mr. MANASCO. The original act on the books has a provision, a punitive provision, covering any fraudulent practice that might be engaged in by anyone to acquire surplus property.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield to the gentleman from Mississippi.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Is it not true, Mr. Speaker, that the purpose of this bill following the hearings of the committee with regard to surplus property is to carry out the promise that this committee made to the House the other day when we had under consideration a bill to give away or make a donation, to wit, to guarantee as far as we could get legal advice to give preferences or priorities to veterans on a par with priorities to the agencies of the Government and to prevent the property from being absolutely absorbed or obtained by the Government agency? I have this in mind. There were a few automobiles but under the priorities, the States and Federal Government got all those automobiles. It is difficult to undertake to set apart all the property according to kind, make, and so forth, on a percentage basis. But in the matter of automobiles, if this had been a law at the time these automobiles were declared surplus, a reasonable percentage of those automobiles, in accordance with the demand therefor, would have been set apart. While all veterans would not have obtained them, they would have obtained a reasonable percentage of the entire number of automobiles declared surplus. That same situation would have applied with respect to trucks and also with respect to equipment and materials the veterans want and need to engage in their businesses as is stipulated here. So that the dealer who has been mentioned, the big operators in the country, would not absorb all of this property and the veterans would know that they had a certain time during which this property would be made available to them. The purpose of this bill undertakes, as far as the attorneys for the War Assets Corporation and so far as legal advisers to our committee have been able to inform us, to give the veteran as high a preference as is given to Government agencies and to guarantee that the veterans will receive in the opinion of the Administrator a chance to secure a reasonable percentage of the goods that may be declared surplus.

Mr. RANKIN. This bill is a long step in the right direction.

Mr. VOORHIS of California. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. VOORHIS of California. In the first place, does this bill give the veteran preference and priority, even though he buys the article for his personal use, or does he still have to make a showing that it is for a business use?

Mr. MANASCO. We have a provision in the second section of this bill which will permit sales for personal use. It is impossible to give every veteran an opportunity to buy a razor blade or a package of chewing gum or a pair of shoes, because we would have to go into the retail-sales business to do that. We would have to establish stores all over the United States.

Mr. VOORHIS of California. But, for example, take an automobile. Could he get a priority on an automobile, even though he does not make a showing that it is to be used for business purposes?

Mr. MANASCO. Absolutely.

Mr. VOORHIS of California. Do I read subsection (b) on page 2 correctly if I understand it to mean that a certain quantity or type of surplus material, in the judgment of the War Assets Corporation, will be set aside for sale to veterans, even before any Federal agency gets its hands on it?

Mr. MANASCO. That is correct.

Mr. MURDOCK. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield to the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. MURDOCK. Priorities for veterans is a good thing, and I approve of it. What distinction are you making between the amounts that will be available to a veteran; in small lots, small enough lots, so as to prevent speculation?

Mr. MANASCO. That is already in the law. Of course that is an administrative matter. That is in the existing Surplus Property Act.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. That is also in line with the question that if a veteran permits a fraud to be perpetrated, if the veteran's preference should be used for the purpose indicated by the gentleman, we vest authority in the Administrator under the act to provide for regulation as to the amounts that may be purchased.

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska.

Mr. CURTIS. This bill appears to deal primarily with the problems of the veteran. Does the committee anticipate any further legislation with reference to the disposal of surplus property?

Mr. MANASCO. Yes, we do.

Mr. JUDD. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield on that point?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. JUDD. In addition to the provisions for assisting the veteran, there is one further change effected by this bill. It came to light that some Federal agencies were shifting surplus property around more or less at will, without any bookkeeping, to other agencies or institutions under various ancient laws. One, for example, in 1929 authorized transfer of Government property to vocational education institutions at a time when no one imagined there would ever be such an enormous quantity of equipment as is now on hand.

Mr. RANKIN. And giving the veterans the run-around.

Mr. JUDD. That is right. This bill provides that no surplus property can be transferred by any Federal agency without reimbursement under any law passed prior to the original Veterans' Preference Act of June 1944. It will be valuable in enabling us to keep track of this surplus property and not let it be squandered or disposed of in other methods than those presented in the Surplus Property Act, as amended.

Mr. HINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. HINSHAW. Not long ago a veteran from the west coast attempted to acquire some photographic material which was declared surplus at the Philadelphia depot of the Army. He had to look all over the United States in the first place to find out where that photographic property was located. He finally went to Philadelphia and made application for the property to be used in a store he was setting up, and they told him that because he came from the west coast he would have to go back there and try to find out if there was any stuff on the west coast. It is perfectly ridiculous, when material is located in one part of the United States, and practically only in that part, that a veteran should have to search the United States for it, and then come to the east coast and be turned down in trying to get it because he did not happen to live in the area in which the property was located. I want to be sure that this surplus stock that is available for disposition to veterans in one locality in the United States is likewise advertised to the balance of the United States when there is no such surplus property there.

Can the gentleman state whether or not that is to be the case?

Mr. MANASCO. That is anticipated by the Administrator.

Mrs. DOUGLAS of California. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield to the gentlewoman from California.

Mrs. DOUGLAS of California. First let me say that I am in hearty agreement with the bill. I think it is a fine thing. I should like to ask this question, prompted by a statement made on the floor by the gentleman from California: Does this mean that in any way our program to feed the starving people of the world will be crippled?

Mr. MANASCO. No.

Mrs. DOUGLAS of California. Because if it does, it means that we will sow the seed for a Third World War and more veterans.

Mr. MANASCO. No; we have appropriated several billions of dollars for UNRRA.

Mrs. DOUGLAS of California. This will not cripple them in trying to get tractors so they can plant their own food? Because 500,000,000 people face famine in the world today.

Mr. MANASCO. I thought it was more than that.

Mrs. DOUGLAS of California. Five hundred million is quite a lot—one quarter of the population of the globe.

Mr. MANASCO. I know it is very serious.

Mrs. DOUGLAS of California. But this will not cripple that?

Mr. MANASCO. What we are trying to do is to make it possible for American veterans to help produce food to help feed the other people of the world. I agree that we have a responsibility to help feed these people, but our primary responsibility is to the American people and our veterans.

Mrs. DOUGLAS of California. I am not talking from the humane point of view at all, I am talking from the point of view that we do not want another war.

Mr. MICHENER. Mr. Speaker, a point of order. This bill is being considered under unanimous consent. It has to do with but one thing and one thing only. If we are going to discuss it and have general debate let us do it in the regular way and not hold a colloquy between a few people around a microphone discussing matters foreign to the bill.

I do not want to object, but the statement was made when consent was asked, that this bill was not controversial and would not take time. The disposition of surplus property was discussed before the Rules Committee and hearings were held as to whether there should be an investigation as to the way this property is being disposed of.

The Slaughter resolution has been reported to the House by the Rules Committee. It will ascertain the facts. We ought to get to the business of the day.

Mr. RANKIN. I may say to the gentleman from Michigan that we are moving rather rapidly, that when we get through with these questions, the bill will go through by unanimous consent.

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. ROONEY. I should like to ask the chairman if he is in position to state the position taken by the veterans' organizations with reference to the bill H. R. 6157.

Mr. MANASCO. Every veterans' organization that has contacted our committee is in favor of the bill.

Mr. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANKIN. I yield to the gentleman from Utah.

Mr. GRANGER. I congratulate the chairman on bringing this bill out. It is too bad it has not been in operation for a long time. As I understand, it does not set aside any property especially for veterans.

Mr. MANASCO. Not in percentages.

Mr. GRANGER. Except when surplus property is advertised for sale the veteran has preference along with certain Federal agencies to buy the property if he wants to.

Mr. MANASCO. No; the Administrator is authorized to set aside say a hundred automobiles, to declare them surplus. He can set aside 75 of those automobiles or some portion of them for veterans.

Mr. GRANGER. He can actually set aside some property for the veterans.

Mr. MANASCO. That is correct.

Mr. FEIGHAN. Mr. Speaker, on November 23 last year I introduced H. R. 4784, a bill to amend the Surplus Property Act to enable a veteran to obtain a genuine bona fide priority instead of the so-called preference which, when attempted to be exercised in the purchase of property, turned out to be so specious that it was, in reality, a sham. I brought to the attention of the Members of the House the fact that a veteran, seeking to purchase surplus property under the present law, would be in a better position if he forgot that he is a veteran and made his application as a small businessman because the present regulations provide that the Smaller War Plants Corporation can exercise its Federal priority on behalf of small business and thus make null and void any application made by, and preference issued to, the veteran as a veteran, exercising his so-called veteran's preference.

I pointed out the many disappointments that came to veterans in exercising their so-called preference when they

found out that other priorities made it almost impossible for them to obtain any scarce material. H. R. 6157, under consideration, will attain the objective of my bill, and I wish to compliment the chairman and members of the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments who have seen fit to afford veterans a genuine bona fide priority. This bill represents an honest, sincere effort to treat the disposition of surplus property in intelligent fashion.

I would like to bring to the attention of the committee certain procedures in the War Assets Administration which I believe they should investigate and which should be corrected. Vehicles are inspected by the War Assets Administration. If this inspection record were made available to the prospective purchaser, instead of a general statement as to the condition, the purchaser would not be in a position of "buyer beware" and would not be buying a pig in a poke. It is my understanding that the War Assets Administration will not make available these inspection reports because they claim they have no money to make copies necessary to make available to their sales offices. It is my understanding that there are only six sales offices in the whole region whose headquarters are in Cincinnati, Ohio. A specific example of this procedure has been set forth in an article appearing in the Cleveland Press Tuesday, April 9, by Joe Collier, and I ask unanimous consent to include this article in my remarks.

I propose to follow up this matter very carefully to make sure that surplus property will be channeled into the hands of veterans, and I will take every action necessary to that end.

TRUCK JUST JUNK?—WAA WON'T TELL

(By Joe Collier)

War Assets Administration records of repairs needed on surplus used motor vehicles it offers for sale are kept a closely guarded secret from prospective veteran buyers.

Not even the WAA salesmen are allowed to see the records to be better informed to advise the veteran on the true value of the vehicles.

In addition, WAA inspectors are ordered to find and destroy the written records of the vehicles usually left in them by the agency which has declared them surplus and knows most about them.

Then, having destroyed or made unavailable all this data, costing thousands of dollars, that would help a veteran to make a reasonable estimate of his own, WAA appraisers who never see the vehicles price them as close to the ceiling as they dare.

This procedure was used by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and pass on to WAA.

(Note to vets with catalogs for this week's sale: Detailed data on cars offered at Newark, Ohio, and Warren, Ohio, are at room 842, Standard Building, but they won't let you see them.)

These facts emerged today from this writer's investigation of complaints of more than a score of greater Cleveland veterans who said they took just one look at vehicles they bought at WAA prices to decide they were overvalued. They filed claims for their money back.

One greater Cleveland veteran, however, carried the matter one step further and he stepped right into financial tanglefoot.

PURCHASES TRUCK

He is Joseph Masseria, a 2-year Navy vet, of 11515 Woodland Avenue, and on February 15 he bought a 1942 1½-ton Chevrolet dump truck at the Cleveland WAA office, paying $1,221 of borrowed money for it.

The only information the WAA salesman with whom he dealt had on the condition of the truck was the WAA code rating of 32, which, translated, means "very good condition."

The only means Mr. Masseria had of judging the vehicle's condition was the WAA's printed estimate that it would cost the difference between the sale price of $1,221 and the WAA ceiling price of $1,274, or $53, to repair it. (OPA's ceiling price for the truck is $1,469.)

Mr. Masseria went to Charlestown, Ind., to look at the truck and immediately decided the estimates were all wrong. Starting it with a battery he took along he found the cylinder block cracked.

MADE A DEAL

Back in Cleveland, he and the WAA reached a deal. He would keep the truck, and repair it, then file a claim for the repairs against the Government.

In addition to the cracked cylinder block, he found that gaskets and cluster gears, the cylinder head, the oil filter, spark plugs, spark plug wire, battery, seat back, left door window, and several other things wrong and needing repair or replacement.

All these were found and fixed by March 18, when he listed them, and sent a claim accompanied by certified repair bills and his expenses amounting to $589 to WAA. The claim was accepted, but has not been paid. (This brings cost of truck to $1,810 as against the OPA 30-day guarantee ceiling of $1,878.)

Since then, he said he has spent an additional $60 repairing the truck, and must buy and install a new clutch and find out what is wrong with the rear end, which leaks oil by the puddle.

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I too wish to commend the chairman and members of the committee upon their bringing in this bill (H. R. 6157) to amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944 with reference to veterans' preference so as to improve the position of our war veterans in purchasing surplus property.

I feel that this is only the first step in rectifying a wrong which was done the veteran in 1944. We all thought at that time that every veteran would get a fair chance of purchasing some of the billions of dollars' worth of surplus Government property. However, time has shown that the machinery set up to do this has proved wholly ineffectual. The Surplus Property Administration, insofar as the veteran in New York City is concerned, has been one colossal failure.

I trust that this is only the first advance in the right direction to improve the shameful conditions which prompted me to introduce House Resolution 399 last November to create a select committee to investigate and study the disposition of surplus property to veterans. Incidentally, that resolution has been bottled up ever since by the Committee on Rules and I have been unable to get the cooperation necessary to bring it to the floor of the House.

Mr. FORAND. Mr. Speaker, I demand the regular order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The regular order is demanded. The regular order is: Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That section 16 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"DISPOSITIONS TO VETERANS

"SEC. 16. (a) The Administrator shall prescribe regulations to effectuate the objectives of this act to aid veterans in the acquisition of surplus property, in appropriate quantities and types, to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. Disposals of surplus property (except real property) to veterans under this subsection shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this act except transfers to Government agencies under section 12.

"(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12 of this act, the Administrator may cause to be set aside or otherwise to be made available quantities and types of any surplus property, except real property, which he determines to be appropriate for exclusive disposal to veterans for their own personal use, and to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. The Administrator shall prescribe regulations designed to achieve the equitable distribution of such surplus property among veterans. In selecting any types or quantities of surplus property for disposal in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, the Administrator shall give due consideration to the availability of adequate facilities for and the costs of the distribution of such property. The Administrator shall from time to time cause to be compiled and widely publicized information as to the types and quantities of such surplus property which has or will become available within a given period of time for exclusive disposal to veterans in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

"(c) The Administrator shall prescribe a reasonable time of not less than 15 days after public notice during which property offered to veterans under this section shall be held for disposal to them."

SEC. 2. Section 12 (a) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"(a) It shall be the duty of the Administrator to facilitate the transfer of surplus property from one Government agency to other Government agencies for their own use and not for transfer or disposition; and the transfer of surplus property under this section shall be given priority over all other disposals provided for in this act, except disposals to veterans of property reserved exclusively for veterans under subsection (b) of section 16 of this act. The Administrator shall prescribe a reasonable time within which Government agencies shall exercise the priority provided by this subsection, but the time so fixed shall not exceed 20 days from the time public notice is given of the availability of the surplus property for disposal to Government agencies."

SEC. 3. Section 12 (c) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"(c) The disposal agency responsible for any such property shall transfer it to the Government agency acquiring it at the fair value of the property as fixed by the disposal agency, under regulations prescribed by the Administrator, unless transfer without reimbursement or transfer of funds is authorized under subsection (d) of this section."

SEC. 4. Section 12 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended by adding a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

"(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 34 (a) of this act, no Government agency may transfer any property to any other Government agency without reimbursement or transfer of funds under authority of any law approved prior to June 22, 1944. Any disposal agency may transfer surplus property to a Government agency without reimbursement or transfer of funds whenever a transfer on such terms by the owning agency (by which such property was declared surplus) would be authorized by any law approved subsequent to June 21,

1944, to be made to the Government agency desiring such property."

SEC. 5. Section 13 (f) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

(f) The disposal of surplus property under this section to States and political subdivisions and instrumentalities thereof shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this act, except transfers to Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16 and purchases made under subsection (e) of section 18: *Provided*, That the Administrator may prescribe a reasonable time during which such priority shall be exercised."

SEC. 6. The last sentence of subsection (e) of section 18 thereof is hereby amended to read as follows: The disposal of surplus property under this subsection shall be given priority immediately following transfers to other Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16. The provisions of subsection (c) of section 12 shall be applicable to purchases made under this subsection."

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. MANASCO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 1757) to amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944, as amended, so as to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' priority, strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the provisions of H. R. 6157, to amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944 with reference to veterans' preference, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama?

Mr. MICHENER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, how many more of these bills are there?

Mr. MANASCO. This is the only one. We are just substituting the House bill for the Senate bill so that the Senate will not have to pass our bill.

Mr. MICHENER. This is similar to the bill just called up?

Mr. MANASCO. Identically the same bill.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. I would like to ask the gentleman, Is the Senate bill identical with the House bill?

Mr. MANASCO. No. We are striking out everything after the enacting clause.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Substituting the House bill?

Mr. MANASCO. Yes.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Does the text of the bill you are substituting place any limitation on the amount which any individual veteran may purchase under his veteran's preference?

Mr. MANASCO. No; that is an administrative matter. Of course, it is not proposed to sell all of it to one veteran.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Did the committee give any consideration to that matter?

Mr. MANASCO. No. You might find one veteran who might want to go into the oil drilling business and it might involve a $50,000 drill ring. If we placed a $2,500 or $3,000 ceiling on what a veteran may buy, you might keep a veteran from going into his own business. We thought that was a matter for the Administrator and not for legislation.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Did the committee go at all into the question of the prices that were placed upon equipment when the veterans looked at it to determine whether or not that price was subsequently lowered after the veteran had passed it over?

Mr. MANASCO. The committee went into that subject very thoroughly.

Mr. CASE of South Dakota. Did you make any recommendations to the Administrator on that subject?

Mr. MANASCO. We did personally. We did not do it in our report. We did call it to the Administrator's attention.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama?

Mrs. ROGERS of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, may I say that Senator O'MAHONEY introduced the first and original bill on this matter. I introduced a companion bill in the House on January 28.

The Senator's bill passed with amendments very recently in the Senate, and he wrote me the following letter regarding it:

UNITED STATES SENATE,
April 15, 1946.

Hon. EDITH NOURSE ROGERS,
The House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE ROGERS: You were good enough to indicate your interest when, last January, I introduced a bill to raise the rank and broaden the scope of the veterans' preference and you introduced a companion bill in the House.

You probably noticed that the Senate passed the bill last Friday in the form it finally assumed after 4 months' study. I am enclosing herewith, for your information, a copy of the bill, along with copies of the report and of the hearings.

With my very best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

JOSEPH C. O'MAHONEY.

I am delighted that the gentleman from Tennessee and his committee has reported out what I consider to be an improved bill on our bills because of more protection to the veteran. I am delighted it has passed. I have spoken in the House on my measure a good many times.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama [Mr. MANASCO]?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That section 16 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"DISPOSAL TO VETERANS

"SEC. 16. (a) The Administrator shall prescribe regulations permitting veterans to acquire appropriate quantities of surplus property to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises, and dispositions of surplus property to veterans under this section shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this act, except transfers to Government agencies under section 12.

"(b) The Administrator shall cause to be set aside or otherwise to be made available, for such period or periods of time as he may determine, appropriate types and quantities of surplus property for exclusive disposal to veterans for their own personal use or to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. The Administrator shall prepare regulations designed to achieve the equitable distribution of such surplus property among veterans. In selecting any types of surplus property for disposal in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, the Administrator shall give due consideration to the availability of adequate facilities for and the cost of the distribution of such surplus property. The Administrator shall from time to time cause to be compiled and publicized widely information as to the types and quantities of such surplus property which has or will become available within a given period of time for exclusive disposal to veterans in accordance with the provisions of this subsection."

SEC. 2. Subsection (a) of section 12 thereof is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "except disposals under section 16 (b)."

SEC. 3. Subsection (f) of section 13 thereof is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following: "and disposals under section 16 and subsection (e) of section 18."

SEC. 4. The last sentence of subsection (e) of section 18 thereof is hereby amended to read as follows: "The disposal of surplus property under this subsection shall be given priority immediately following transfers to other Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16. The provisions of subsection (c) of section 12 shall be applicable to purchases made under this subsection."

Mr. MANASCO. Mr. Speaker, I offer as an amendment the House bill.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. MANASCO: Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

"That section 16 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

" 'DISPOSITIONS TO VETERANS

" 'SEC. 16. (a) The Administrator shall prescribe regulations to effectuate the objectives of this act to aid veterans in the acquisition of surplus property, in appropriate quantities and types, to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. Disposals of surplus property (except real property) to veterans under this subsection shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this act except transfers to Government agencies under section 12.

" '(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12 of this act, the Administrator may cause to be set aside or otherwise to be made available quantities and types of any surplus property, except real property, which he determines to be appropriate for exclusive disposal to veterans for their own personal use, and to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. The Administrator shall prescribe regulations designed to achieve the equitable distribution of such surplus property among veterans. In selecting any types or quantities of surplus property for disposal in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, the Administrator shall give due consideration to the availability of adequate facilities for and the costs of the distribution of such property. The Administrator shall from time to time cause to be compiled and widely publicized information as to the types and quantities of such surplus property which has or will become available within a given period of time for exclusive disposal to veterans in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

"'(c) The Administrator shall prescribe a reasonable time of not less than 15 days after public notice during which property offered to veterans under this section shall be held for disposal to them.'

"SEC. 2. Section 12 (a) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"'(a) It shall be the duty of the Administrator to facilitate the transfer of surplus property from one Government agency to other Government agencies for their own use and not for transfer or disposition; and the transfer of surplus property under this section shall be given priority over all other disposals provided for in this act, except disposals to veterans of property reserved exclusively for veterans under subsection (b) of section 16 of this act. The Administrator shall prescribe a reasonable time within which Government agencies shall exercise the priority provided by this subsection, but the time so fixed shall not exceed 20 days from the time public notice is given of the availability of the surplus property for disposal to Government agencies.'

"SEC. 3. Section 12 (c) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"'(c) The disposal agency responsible for any such property shall transfer it to the Government agency acquiring it at the fair value of the property as fixed by the disposal agency, under regulations prescribed by the Administrator, unless transfer without reimbursement or transfer of funds is authorized under subsection (d) of this section.'

"SEC. 4. Section 12 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended by adding a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

"'(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 34 (a) of this act, no Government agency may transfer any property to any other Government agency without reimbursement or transfer of funds under authority of any law approved prior to June 22, 1944. Any disposal agency may transfer surplus property to a Government agency without reimbursement or transfer of funds whenever a transfer on such terms by the owning agency (by which such property was declared surplus) would be authorized by any law approved subsequent to June 21, 1944, to be made to the Government agency desiring such property.'

"SEC. 5. Section 13 (f) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"'(f) The disposal of surplus property under this section to States and political subdivisions and instrumentalities thereof shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this act, except transfers to Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16 and purchases made under subsection (e) of section 18: *Provided*, That the Administrator may prescribe a reasonable time during which such priority shall be exercised.'

"SEC. 6. The last sentence of subsection (e) of section 18 thereof is hereby amended to read as follows: 'The disposal of surplus property under this subsection shall be given priority immediately following transfers to other Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16. The provisions of subsection (c) of section 12 shall be applicable to purchases made under this subsection.'"

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. MANASCO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the title be amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the proceedings whereby the House bill, H. R. 6157, was passed are vacated and the bill laid on the table.

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE TO EXTEND REMARKS

Mr. MANASCO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have five legislative days in which to extend their remarks on the bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempre. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama?

There was no objection.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

Mr. MAHON asked and was given permission to revise and extend the remarks he made earlier in the day.

Mr. WASIELEWSKI asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD in three instances and include newspaper articles in each.

Mr. FLANNAGAN. Mr. Speaker, a day or two ago I obtained unanimous consent to extend my remarks in the RECORD and include an address by Mr. Joseph N. Cridlin. I am informed by the Public Printer that this will exceed two pages of the RECORD and will cost $150, but I ask that it be printed notwithstanding that fact.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, notwithstanding the cost, the extension may be made.

There was no objection.

[The matter referred to appears in the Appendix.]

Mr. JUDD asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD in two instances and include certain extraneous matter.

Mr. WEICHEL asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD.

Mr. LANE asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include a letter from a constituent.

Mr. PHILBIN asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include two resolutions adopted by the Massachusetts General Court.

Mr. LAFOLLETTE asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD.

Mr. LAFOLLETTE. Mr. Speaker, under previous order I was granted 40 minutes today. I ask unanimous consent that in lieu of taking that order, I may extend my remarks in the point of the RECORD where that order would appear.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

Mr. LUDLOW asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD and include two letters.

Mr. PATMAN asked and was given permission to extend his remarks in the RECORD on five subjects.

SPECIAL ORDER GRANTED

Mr. HOLIFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that today, following any special orders heretofore entered, I be permitted to address the House for 30 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. LUDLOW. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that today, following any special orders heretofore entered, I be permitted to address the House for 15 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

Mr. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that today, following any special orders heretofore granted, I be permitted to address the House for 30 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

INVESTIGATION BY COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I call up House Resolution 430 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary, acting as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized and directed to make a thorough investigation of all the circumstances with respect to the disposition of the charges of espionage and the possession of documents stolen from secret Government files which were made by the Federal Bureau of Investigation against the following individuals: Philip J. Jaffe, Kate L. Mitchell, John Stewart Service, Emmanuel Sigurd Larson, Andrew Roth, and Mark Gayn.

The committee shall report to the House (or to the Clerk of the House, if the House is not in session) as soon as practicable during the present Congress the results of its investigation, together with such recommendations as it deems necessary.

For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this resolution the committee, or any subcommittee thereof, is authorized to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether or not the House is sitting, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, to require by subpena or otherwise the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, records, and documents, and to take such testimony as it deems necessary. Subpenas may be issued over the signature of the chairman of the committee or any member designated by him, and may be served by any person designated by such chairman or member.

Mr. RANKIN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. COX. I yield to the gentleman from Mississippi.

Mr. RANKIN. I was wondering why this resolution was not made broad enough to cover all those individuals who have been stealing or destroying records in the various departments.

Mr. COX. I do not know. I am sorry I cannot answer that question. This resolution is sponsored by the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DONDERO].

Mr. RANKIN. I was just wondering why it was limited to certain individuals when there are others that are just as guilty, and why not amend it, after reciting these names, to say "and others,"

spect, to supervise. The churches of America can help by joining with the churches of other countries to throw their weight against the tragic race for armaments which may well begin. We must work together, one nation with another, to assure the world at large that brotherly love is not an empty phrase to be placed in a frame and forgotten. The cloud which rose above Hiroshima still hangs over the world. The United Nations is our only hope to dispell the shadow it has cast so that we may live in the sun again.

The churches who are the spiritual leaders of the world can, and I am sure will take the lead in establishing permanent peace upon this earth by channeling this tremendous atomic energy for the benefit, health, and growth of the human race. Through the voice of the church the people will be informed and in turn their representatives in government will take heed. Let us all pray for peace.

Disposal of Surplus Property

EXTENSION OF REMARKS
OF
HON. LYNDON B. JOHNSON
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, April 18, 1946

Mr. LYNDON B. JOHNSON. Mr. Speaker, when demobilization of our armed forces commenced in earnest after VJ-day last year, we began to hear whispers of discontent from veterans that the priority given them by the Surplus Property Act of 1944 was not working out the way we had intended. The veteran was getting the cold shoulder from all the disposal agencies. Invariably he was told one of two things—either that the Federal Government, State agencies, local instrumentalities, and nonprofit organizations had beat him to the draw or that he could not have the equipment because it would not help him make a profit in his business.

I talked the situation over with the veterans as well as with our surplus property officials and introduced a bill, H. R. 4793, which I felt would remedy both of these situations. My bill provided that the veterans would have the top priority for purchase of surplus goods after the needs of the Federal Government had been taken care of and that he could buy surplus materials for his own use without proving their value to his business. These amendments seemed to remove the two restrictions which were making veterans' priority a sham.

Five long months have passed. During that time many of our colleagues joined me by introducing identical and similar legislation.

We finally have a bill before us to straighten out this mess. Although some additions have been made, this bill is basically the one I introduced last November. It corrects most adequately the two weaknesses of the Surplus Property Act which have plagued every veteran who had his eye on a jeep, a camera, a typewriter, or any of the million and one other items our armed forces found they could do without.

Action has already been too long delayed. The discontented whispers of last October have mounted into a tremendous clamor. Our returned heroes are disappointed, infuriated, and just plain fed up with excuses.

I hope the House will show overwhelmingly its desire to correct this injustice by approving unanimously today H. R. 6157, that the Senate will accord the bill's provisions its speedy concurrence, and that Presidential approval will be forthcoming at once.

Our Invisible Guests—Europe's Starving Children

EXTENSION OF REMARKS
OF
HON. ELLIS E. PATTERSON
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, April 18, 1946

Mr. PATTERSON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak to you on the subject of the tragic conditions in Europe and the East at the present time. It is already too late, I am told, to save all the people who are now on the brink of starvation. To do the minimum necessary is just as much a problem of planning and logistics as was the war we have so recently won. Can we refuse to lend our genius to this new war? Do we dare to say that we can plan to destroy life but are not willing to plan to save life?

I know well that Americans are willing and anxious to share. But the crisis cannot be met by gestures of good will, no matter how earnestly intended. Our people must have Government help to assure that their sacrifices will be effective. They have a right to know that the bread they do not eat will mean bread in the mouths of the starving. Mr. Hoover's plan of voluntary rationing cannot possibly fulfill these obligations. The bread the housewife does not buy will go stale on the shelves. Can we then wrap it up and ship it overseas? It has been said that if every American man, woman, and child saved a teaspoon of fat a day it would mean a million pounds a day to feed the women and children of starving countries. But who is going around to collect it? Mr. Hoover's invisible guest, whom he wishes we would invite to every meal, would be well fed if he could actually sit at table with us. But he is thousands of miles overseas. Can this guest wait until the housewives' generosity is reflected back through her grocer, to the wholesaler, to the industry, and finally to the UNRRA purchasing agent? No, he will be dead by then.

There are two levels of action which will provide the relief we want to give. First, there must be set-asides at the source of fats, oils, and cereal grains. The Government must make these foods available to UNRRA and not force UNRRA to compete in the open market for the lives of little children. Second, to assure that we ourselves are fairly treated, that some of us do not continue in plenty and others in need, we must plan to resume some rationing. It has been said that this would be too difficult, that it would take too long. It has been said that the crisis is only a matter of a few months, so we do not need to take long-term measures. This is the wildest sort of optimism, based on political wishful thinking. The devastated areas cannot possibly be expected to produce enough food by the end of this year to carry them through another winter. We must face the fact that normalcy is a thing in the future and that we cannot yet go back to the days when our imagination was our only restriction. Certain foods will be scarce for another 18 months if we are to extend our help and our thanks to the people who need and deserve them.

There are many ways in which we could move to alleviate suffering and prevent death. Far greater quantities of rice could be allocated for export. Linseed oil and copra could be saved for edible use instead of being turned into paints and soap. There should be international allocation of cereal grains and flour.

The Combined Food Board should be expanded to include other countries which could supply food. Price control must be extended and remain a function of the OPA. Every rise in price means a devaluation of UNRRA's dollars.

America eats more richly and fully than any country in the world. This year we will eat 165 pounds of meat—40 more than before the war. Meat consumption in the average UNRRA country is 9½ pounds per person, and yet we have turned over to UNRRA only 3 percent of our commitments for the first quarter of this year. It is estimated that for every million tons of wheat withheld from the starving countries in the next 6 months 20,000,000 people will die. We are 50 percent behind on our commitments of wheat. Americans will get 45 pounds of fats for this year. Only 20 pounds are necessary to maintain life, yet Poland will have only 3 pounds per person.

While we sit here, people are dying. In the face of our plenty, of our desire and obligation to help, how can we say any measure is "not necessary"—that anything is "too difficult"?

Central Valley Project

EXTENSION OF REMARKS
OF
JERRY VOORHIS
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, April 18, 1946

Mr. VOORHIS of California. Mr. Speaker, in discussion in the House today of the War Department civil functions appropriation bill, there was not sufficient time for every interested Member to speak. I was not able to do so. But I want to state here in the RECORD that my understanding of the provisions of the conference report for the Kings River

Dam in California is the same as that developed in the debate. I understood that the language of the Flood Control Act of 1944, together with that added by the conference committee, will assure that on the Kings River project the provisions of the reclamation laws will control the operation and repayment. The reclamation law will, as I understand it, be applied here, as it is another multiple-purpose water conservation and flood control project, already a part of the Central Valley project. It is clearly most important that a uniform policy govern all Federal water development projects in this area.

Same Old Bait

EXTENSION OF REMARKS
OF
HON. ROY O. WOODRUFF
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, April 18, 1946

Mr. WOODRUFF. Mr. Speaker, under permission to extend my remarks in the RECORD, I include the following editorial:

SAME OLD BAIT

While admittedly honest men can disagree as to the desirability of further loans, subsidies, and grants-in-aid to the United Kingdom under its Socialist administration, there is no excuse for double dealing and for misleading the American public.

Specifically, as a quid pro quo for the $4,400,000,000 loan, in addition to effacement of the British $25,000,000,000 lend-lease obligation to the United States Government, it has been suggested that the British had more or less committed themselves to a course of reduction of tariff barriers and possible ultimate elimination of imperial preference.

Remarks on this subject have been oblique, rather than direct, but they definitely expose a propaganda technique.

For example, when the British loan was arranged on December 7 last, the New York Times reported:

"The British agree to a set of liberal trade principles, comprising a document analogous in the world trade field to the Dumbarton Oaks agreement in the international political field."

This observation was based on the joint statement of the United States and the United Kingdom regarding the understanding reached on commercial policy. The two countries agreed to negotiate for the purpose of developing concrete arrangements for relaxation of trade barriers of all kinds.

While Britain plainly retained some freedom of action and decision as to how much she wanted to liberalize her own trade barriers, much has been made in recent propaganda of the fact that Britain's adherence to this program represented a new achievement, and constituted a strong argument for making the loan.

But it was misleading to give the impression that a new concession had been wrung from Britain as an inducement to the United States to make the loan.

For in the master lend-lease agreement early in the war Great Britain had already committed herself in far more rigid terms to such an economic and trade policy.

For example, article VII of the master lend-lease agreements provides "for agreed action * * * open to participation by all other countries of like mind, directed * * * to the elimination of all forms of discriminatory treatment in international commerce, and to the reduction of tariffs and other trade barriers."

Thus, the December 1945 joint statement of the two Governments on reduction of trade barriers and discriminatory policies adds nothing to the commitment assumed earlier in the lend-lease documents.

The only significant addition is that a conference is to be called to discuss these subjects.

Yet, in face of the record, Secretary Vinson, propagandizing for the loan in a speech before the North Carolina Newspaper Institute at Chapel Hill, said:

"The repayment of the loan and interest, moreover, is not all of the consideration or benefit that the United States receives under this financial agreement * * *. Britain promises to avoid trade controls which would discriminate against American products."

It is fudging the record to make it appear that a foreign government, as a consideration for a new loan, is accepting a new principle, which in truth it already had embraced years earlier as an inducement for the huge lend-lease advances.

Yet, in face of such loose argument, some members of the British Parliament made it appear that, in making this concession, Britain was at this time losing its freedom of action.

In seeking to clarify the record, we are not at this time dealing with the broader question as to why we have to bribe a foreign country to adopt economic theories which their advocates contend are mutually beneficial.

The public will be subject to exploitation and abuse until politicians are held to standards of common accuracy and directness.

Farmers Need Air Development and Expanded Air Mail Services

EXTENSION OF REMARKS
OF
HON. HAROLD C. HAGEN
OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, April 18, 1946

Mr. HAGEN. Mr. Speaker, leading farm organizations of the United States have recorded their recognition of the value of aviation developments, particularly as it pertains to the welfare of the farmers.

The American Farm Bureau Federation, representing 985,000 farm families, has taken a very definite stand in behalf of the expansion and development of air service and air power. They have placed emphasis on the fact that the time is not too far away when many perishable farm commodities will be transported by air.

The National Grange, which represents 750,000 farm families, has also gone on record in behalf of development of air transportation. A third great farm group, the National Council of Farm Cooperatives, speaking in behalf of 2,300,000 farmer consumers, has recently passed a resolution stating that they favor the preservation and maintenance of technological improvement and scientific advances in all modes of transportation.

For many years I have been particularly interested in the development of air transportation and air-mail service, and during this session of Congress I introduced a bill (H. R. 5427) providing that all domestic air-mail letters mailed within the United States and its possessions and Territories be transmitted at the same rate for each ounce or fraction thereof as it now is within the country itself. This will mean that an air-mail letter can be sent to or from any one of our States, Territories, possessions, or the Canal Zone for the same price.

I also introduced a bill, H. R. 4735, to provide for a United States air-mail post card and to authorize the transmission by air mail of private mailing cards. This legislation has received a great deal of favorable comment from many authoritative sources.

I am also convinced that the rate of postage on air mail should be reduced because of the increased volume. For that reason, I introduced a bill to the effect that the rate shall be reduced from 8 cents to 5 cents for each ounce or fraction thereof. This bill is H. R. 4734.

The March issue of Planes carried a significant statement by Mr. Edward A. O'Neal, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation. Planes is the official publication of the Aircraft Industries Association of America, Inc. Mr. O'Neal's article is reprinted herewith:

AMERICAN FARMER WANTS AIR LEADERSHIP—O'NEAL

(By Edward A. O'Neal, president, American Farm Bureau Federation)

The United States farmer has a deep interest in aeronautical research, and he wants it continued at a high level; first, because he realizes that this country must maintain its leadership in aerial technology for security reasons, and second, because in the near future he will use air transport increasingly for travel and for shipping certain commodities.

I'm quite sure that farmers devoutly hope that this country will never again be caught so vulnerable to attack as we were on December 7, 1941. Farmers know that just a few billions spent on air power previous to that time would have saved uncounted billions in wealth and many precious American lives.

Fate has catapulted our country into a position of world leadership. We cannot discharge the responsibilities which that leadership imposes unless we maintain our position as the foremost air power of the world.

The course of world history during the next century will depend largely on what we do in this country. If anyone believes that the farmers of America favor a policy of living to ourselves alone, such a person is tragically mistaken.

The advent of the low-cost, safe, and easily flown plane means a lot to farm and ranch people. Farm boys, most of whom are mechanically minded to a notable degree, take to air travel as a duck takes to water. Planes are now in use for dusting, seeding, range patrol, coyote hunting, and many other uses. Plane transportation of high-quality, perishable foods offers some interesting possibilities. It's my guess that 10 years from now farmers will be using air transportation to a degree that few people envision today.

FARMERS BACK AIR DEVELOPMENT

Leading farm organizations of the United States have recorded their recognition of the value of aviation developments.

The American Farm Bureau Federation represents 985,000 farm families and says, "Transportation of farm and other products by air is here. Its relative importance will be measured only by time, vision, improvements and freedom of opportunity to expand. Speed, reduction in refrigeration and the constantly lowering rates with increased services are among the factors indicating that ever increasing tonnages will be moved by air."

DIGEST OF CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS
OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Legislative Reports and Service Section
(For Department staff only)

Issued April 22, 1946
For actions of April 19, 1946
79th-2nd, No. 73

CONTENTS

Accounting.....19
Adjournment.....13
Appropriations.....2,12,23
Buildings and grounds....14
Flood control.....12
Forestry.....16
Fruits & vegetables..... 3
Grain..... 1
Labor..... 3
Lands, farm..... 9
Livestock and meat..... 3
Loans, foreign..... 6
Personnel.....15,17
Philippine rehabilitation.11
Price control..... 3
Property, surplus..... 4
Relief, foreign..... 8
Research.....10,21
Rubber..... 2
Salaries.....23
Soil conservation.....20
Subsidies..... 3
Transportation.....22
Veterans.....4,7
Wheat..... 1

HIGHLIGHTS: Sen. Reed criticized USDA's handling of wheat and bread situation. Senate received supplemental appropriation estimate of $195,100 for rubber research project. Senate agreed to House amendments to bill making veterans' preferences for surplus property next to Federal Government's; ready for President. Sen. Thomas, Okla., introduced bill to establish central PMA administrative expense account. Sen. Thomas, Okla., introduced bill to extend Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to Virgin Islands.

SENATE

1. WHEAT AND FLOUR. Sen. Reed, Kans., criticized this Department's handling of the wheat and bread situation and included a constituent's letter on the subject (pp. 4139-40).

2. RUBBER; APPROPRIATIONS. Received from the President a supplemental appropriation estimate of $195,100 to continue research on rubber-bearing plants and on extraction and processing of rubber ($150,000, BA&IC and $45,100, BPISAE) (S.Doc.172) (p. 4104).

3. PRICE CONTROL. Sen. Langer, N.Dak., inserted Cooperative Store Assn. (Maddock, N. Dak.) and Farmers' Union (Fargo, N.Dak.) resolutions favoring the continuation of price control (p. 4106).

Sen. Langer, N.Dak., inserted a Wyndmere Cooperative Shipping Assn. resolution opposing price control and subsidies for the livestock industry (p. 4106).

Sen. Langer, N.Dak., inserted a Vegetable Growers' Assn. of America resolution opposing price ceilings on perishable vegetables and favoring the Hobbs antiracketeering bill (pp. 4106-7).

Sen. Wherry, Nebr., criticized OPA's "gestapo methods" of enforcement, commended its drive to enforce sugar regulations, and included a court decision on an alleged violation case (pp. 4127-9).

4. SURPLUS PROPERTY; VETERANS. Agreed to the House amendments to S. 1757, to make certain personal property be set aside for veterans without regard to priorities, provide for a time limit of not over 20 days within which the Government agencies must exercise their priorities, and prohibit transfer of property between Government agencies, without reimbursement or transfer of funds, on authority of any law approved before June 22, 1944 (pp. 4110-3). This bill will now be sent to the President.

5. AIRPORTS. Agreed to defer until Tues., Apr. 23, consideration of the conference report on S. 2, the Federal-aid airport bill (pp. 4108-10).

6. BRITISH LOANS. Continued debate on S. J. Res. 138, to authorize the loan to Great Britain (pp. 4106, 4129-39, 4140-2, 4151). During the debate Sen. Butler, Nebr., compared the British loan terms with those of loans made by Federal lending agencies to farmers, veterans, small business, etc. (pp. 4137-9) and Sen. Langer, N.Dak., discussed living costs in Alaska, including tabulations on the subject (pp. 4141-3).

7. VETERANS. Agreed to the conference report on S. 1152, to effectuate the purposes of the GI Bill of Rights in D.C. (p. 4151).

8. FOREIGN RELIEF. Sen. Mead, N.Y., spoke on UNRRA's needs in order to carry out its foreign-relief program (pp. 4147-50).

9. LAND-USE PLANNING. Sen. Langer, N.Dak., inserted a N. Dak. Agricultural Advisory Council resolution urging that provisions be made to resume local land-use planning (p. 4107).

10. RESEARCH; ATOMIC ENERGY. The Special Atomic Energy Committee reported with an amendment S. 1717, for the development and control of atomic energy (S. Rept. 1211) (p. 4107).

11. PHILIPPINE REHABILITATION. Agreed to conference report on S. 1610, to provide for the rehabilitation of the Philippines (pp. 4113-5). The House has not acted on the report.

12. WAR DEPARTMENT CIVIL APPROPRIATION BILL. Agreed to the conference report and the amendments in disagreement on this bill, H.R. 5400, which includes flood-control appropriations for the War Department (pp. 4114-5). This bill will now be sent to the President.

13. ADJOURNED until Mon., Apr. 22 (p. 4151).

HOUSE

NOT IN SESSION. Next meeting Tues., Apr. 30.

14. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS. In reporting H.R. 5407 (see Digest 71) to grant FWA certain powers with respect to site acquisition, building construction, purchase of buildings, etc., the Public Buildings and Grounds Committee struck out the provision granting the Commissioner of Public Buildings exclusive authority to enter into food contracts in Government buildings.

BILLS INTRODUCED

15. PERSONNEL; EMPLOYMENT. H.R. 6206 (see Digest 72) would repeal the provision of law which prevents a retired commissioned officer of the U.S. from holding a civilian office or position in the Federal service if the salary combined with his retired pay exceeds $3,000, and amends, by including personnel of the Public Health Service and the Coast and Geodetic Survey, the provision exempting retired personnel from the prohibition against holding any other Government elective or appointive position to which compensation is attached while already employed at a salary of $2,500.

16. FORESTRY. H.R. 6201 (see Digest 72) establishes a Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Redwood Forest in Calif.; authorizes this Department to cooperate with Calif. recreation industries and to provide suitable roads, trails, recreation areas, etc. and train and provide personnel to aid in the use and enjoyment of the forest; authorizes this Department to acquire lands for the site of the memorial, the Interior Department to administer the memorial units of the forest, and log cutting or harvesting and utilization of forest products to be

tative understanding yesterday, first to take up the conference report yesterday afternoon, and then to take it up this morning. I think that, so far as a check has shown, there is today as large a representation as there is likely to be, in view of the recess which has been taken by the other body, which does not affect us and yet I think has resulted in the prospective departure during the Easter season of some of our colleagues. I see now before me one of our distinguished colleagues [Mr. OVERTON], who is acting chairman of the Committee on Commerce during the illness of the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. BAILEY]. I know he is leaving, and I think there are other Senators who are leaving the coming week. The Senator from Louisiana has supported the viewpoint of the Senator from Nevada. So he may find that he will lose some votes. I think it would be very much better to dispose of the conference report today and get it out of the way.

Mr. McCARRAN. To be very frank with the Senator from Maine, I should like very much to get it out of the way and dispose of it, but I know there are Senators on both sides of the aisle who have given a great deal of consideration to the subject, and I am loath to bring it up at a time when there are so few present and when I know that between now and 3 o'clock there will be many Senators who will have to absent themselves. Therefore, I am asking for the unanimous-consent agreement.

Mr. BARKLEY. Mr. President, if I may interject here, there were suggestions yesterday in connection with this matter that we should not have a session today, but, in view of the fact that we have important legislation before us, and that other legislation will begin to pile up soon, it seemed to me that we ought to have a session today. Some Senators indicated to me that they would like to be absent today. I do not know how they will vote on this matter. I myself rather urged that we consider and dispose of the conference report. I did not realize yesterday that there would be so many Senators absent today as apparently are absent. I hope there will be no objection to the request of the Senator from Nevada. I shall endeavor to cooperate in the disposition of this important matter as soon as possible, but I do not believe it would be fair to either side to insist on taking it up today. I hope the Senator from Maine will not object.

Mr. BREWSTER. Mr. President, certainly I want to show every consideration so far as we on this side are concerned. Would it possible to dispose of the matter on Monday?

Mr. BARKLEY. That raises this question: Of course the Easter season situation affects the attendance not only today but will affect it on Monday. The Senator from Michigan [Mr. VANDENBERG], who is absent from the Chamber temporarily, must leave on Monday night, I understand, to accompany the Secretary of State to Paris. Unless he is prepared to make a statement today in regard to the pending legislation—not the conference report but the pending legislation—I would feel under obligation to attempt to have a session Monday, if for no other purpose than to allow him to make a statement before he departs, because the pending joint resolution may be voted upon before he returns. If he were prepared to do that today, I should feel disposed not to have a session on Monday, in view of the absence of Senators, because on Monday I think we would be as bad off as we are today, if not worse. A number of Senators have indicated to me that they would not like to be compelled to attend a session on Monday. So what is suggested would not help the situation. Any day next week when the Senator from Maine could be here would be agreeable to the Senator from Nevada, I am sure, and would be to me.

Mr. McCARRAN. What was the suggestion?

Mr. BARKLEY. The Senator heard my comments about the possibility of a session on Monday. I said that any day next week when the Senator from Maine would be present would be agreeable to the Senator from Nevada, I was sure, and would be to me.

Mr. McCARRAN. I suggest Thursday of next week.

Mr. BREWSTER. I would agree to Monday or Tuesday, but could we have the understanding that if we have a session on Monday we will take the matter up on Monday at noon; and if we do not have a session on Monday, take it up Tuesday at noon?

Mr. BARKLEY. I would rather have a definite understanding that we would take it up on Tuesday at noon, rather than make it Monday.

Mr. BREWSTER. Suppose we then have a definite understanding that we will take it up on convening at noon Tuesday.

Mr. BARKLEY. Mr. President, I personally have no objection to that. It appears to me there will never be a day during the remainder of this session, if forever, when all Senators will be in the Chamber on any one day. That is an impossibility.

Mr. McCARRAN. Would the Senator from Maine be content to let the matter go over for an hour or so until we can come to some understanding as to a day certain next week?

Mr. LUCAS. I thought we had made an agreement to take the conference report up today.

Mr. BARKLEY. We had, and that is what we have been discussing. Because so many Senators are absent, it does not seem propitious to take it up now.

Mr. LUCAS. I think that if the Senator will examine the roll calls, he will find that every one shows 15 or 20 or 25 Senators absent.

Mr. BARKLEY. That does not necessarily mean they are all out of the city. The peculiar situation existing now with regard to the proximity of Easter presents a little different condition from what is normal.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. May the Chair suggest Wednesday as a compromise?

Mr. BREWSTER. I wish to say to the Senator from Illinois that I had hoped, and still hope, that we may dispose of the matter today, as I think he is entirely correct that there will always be a considerable number of Senators absent, particularly during the week following Easter. I should prefer to see the matter disposed of today, and I do not believe it will make any material difference in the result, so far as any information which I have indicates. On the other hand, in deference to the request of the Senator from Nevada, it would be agreeable to me to have a further continuance to either Monday or Tuesday, perhaps to Tuesday as a day certain.

Mr. McCARRAN. Will the Senator consent to the matter going over until Wednesday or Thursday?

Mr. BREWSTER. No. Unfortunately, I shall be obliged to be away.

Mr. McCARRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the matter go over indefinitely.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. To what date?

Mr. McCARRAN. Indefinitely.

Mr. BREWSTER. I shall certainly object to that. I think we should dispose of this matter now, either by taking it up today, or fixing a day certain. It would be entirely agreeable to me to go forward with it today, and I believe that is the orderly way to proceed, when we have the time, and when we have a representative attendance of Senators in Washington, so far as I have been able to learn.

Mr. McCARRAN. Will the Senator be here next Friday?

Mr. BREWSTER. No; I will not.

Mr. McCARRAN. We are trying to accommodate everyone as much as we can. That is the trouble.

Mr. BREWSTER. Two of the chief gladiators are here now, in the persons of the Senator from Nevada and myself, who have discussed this matter for some time, and I wish we could dispose of it. I am sure it will work out well.

Mr. McCARRAN. Would the Senator consent to have it go over without date, until the Senator and I can agree on a date today, and then have the order made?

Mr. BREWSTER. If we give up the position which we now enjoy we have no knowledge as to where we shall land, so I think the matter should be disposed of now. We have had this report on the clerk's desk for a considerable time and without any criticism of the reasons for the delay, it has gone over.

Mr. BARKLEY. In that connection, I may say that frequently we postpone matters of importance because of the absence of some key Member of the Senate who desires to be present when it is taken up. This is the first time any tentative date has been set for the consideration of this conference report, and it seems to me not unreasonable to have the matter go over, in view of the situation—for which I am somewhat responsible, I may say, by insisting on having a session today. A good many Senators felt we should not have a session today, but it has never been the practice of the Senate to adjourn from Thursday to Monday on account of Easter, and I did not feel we were justified in doing so at this time.

I shall cooperate with the Senator from Maine and the Senator from Nevada in any way I can to bring about the earliest possible disposition of the conference report, when the Senator from Maine can be present. I realize that Senators who are interested in the report, and who have to be away on any day we take it up, have to accept that responsibility. There is no way of avoiding it.

I wish to comment upon the urgency of the Senate concluding its deliberations. One of the reasons why I have insisted on the Senate meeting today, and not taking a recess on account of Easter, was that we might conclude our business and take what we have not taken for a long time, an adjournment of the Congress. I still hope we may be able to do that in July. I think we can do it if we knuckle down to our business and dispose of the necessary legislation. We cannot have an adjournment in July unless we do that. I hope that all Senators will cooperate to bring that about. I have not heard of a Senator or talked with a Senator who does not desire to have an adjournment in July, by the first of July if it is possible. I am not optimistic enough to think we can take the adjournment by the first of July, but I am sure we can during July.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection to the unanimous-consent request?

Mr. BREWSTER. Mr. President, a continuance to next Tuesday would be entirely agreeable to me, in order to get this matter disposed of, but I do not want to leave it in the air. It has been pending for a long time, and I hope the Senator from Nevada will ask permission to modify his request and fix next Tuesday as a day certain, in accordance with the intimation from the majority leader that that would be agreeable so far as his calendar is concerned.

Mr. McCARRAN. A Member of the Senate who is absent at the moment, though he was here a moment ago, is very much interested in the conference report, and he tells me he cannot be present Tuesday. Otherwise Tuesday would be satisfactory. I refer to the Senator from Illinois [Mr. LUCAS].

Mr. BARKLEY. The Senator from Illinois is on the floor now.

Mr. BREWSTER. The Senator from Illinois is available, and I think many of those, if not all, who have been interested in the matter, are present, and the report could be disposed of in accordance with the unanimous-consent agreement of yesterday. I think it would be better if we could dispose of it today, but I shall be agreeable to a continuance to Tuesday, if the Senator from Nevada will modify his request to that extent.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Does the Senator from Nevada modify his request?

Mr. McCARRAN. I dislike intensely to bring the matter up at that tmie, in view of the statement made to me by the Senator from Illinois that he positively cannot be here Tuesday.

Mr. BREWSTER. He is here now.

Mr. McCARRAN. I know he is here now, but he has made the statement to me which I have repeated, and I think he would make it for the record, so far as that is concerned. I shall consent to have the matter come up Tuesday.

Mr. BREWSTER. Will the Senator make the request?

Mr. McCARRAN. I make the unanimous consent request that the order heretofore made be vacated, and that the conference report be brought up Tuesday at 12 o'clock.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. LANGER. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

Mr. BARKLEY. Mr. President, of course while the unanimous-consent agreement was that the conference report be taken up at 12 o'clock today, there is no unanimous-consent agreement as to when it should be voted upon.

Mr. President, a parliamentary inquiry.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator will state it.

Mr. BARKLEY. Is it in order to move that the consideration of this conference report to be postponed until 12 o'clock noon on Tuesday next?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Such a motion is in order.

Mr. BARKLEY. I make that motion.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on the motion of the Senator from Kentucky to postpone consideration of this conference report until next Tuesday at 12 o'clock.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. President, a parliamentary inquiry.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator will state it.

Mr. LUCAS. What will happen next Tuesday at noon if we should then happen to be in the same situation we are in today?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair cannot suggest——

Mr. LUCAS. We agreed to the unanimous-consent request made yesterday to take up the conference report today. Now another unanimous consent has been agreed to, that we take up the conference report on Tuesday next. Will another unanimous-consent agreement be in order on next Tuesday to take up the report at some other time?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. A motion to postpone would be in order.

VETERANS PREFERENCE UNDER SURPLUS PROPERTY ACT OF 1944

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate the amendments of the House of Representatives to the bill (S. 1757) to amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944, as amended, so as to broaden the scope and raise the rank of the veterans' priority, which were, to strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

That section 16 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"DISPOSITIONS TO VETERANS

"SEC. 16. (a) The Administrator shall prescribe regulations to effectuate the objectives of this act to aid veterans in the acquisition of surplus property, in appropriate quantities and types, to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. Disposals of surplus property (except real property) to veterans under this subsection shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this act except transfers to Government agencies under section 12.

"(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12 of this act, the Administrator may cause to be set aside or otherwise to be made available quantities and types of any surplus property, except real property, which he determines to be appropriate for exclusive disposal to veterans for their own personal use, and to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. The Administrator shall prescribe regulations designed to achieve the equitable distribution of such surplus property among veterans. In selecting any types or quantities of surplus property for disposal in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, the Administrator shall give due consideration to the availability of adequate facilities for and the costs of the distribution of such property. The Administrator shall from time to time cause to be compiled and widely publicized information as to the types and quantities of such surplus property which has or will become available within a given period of time for exclusive disposal to veterans in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

"(c) The Administrator shall prescribe a reasonable time of not less than 15 days after public notice during which property offered to veterans under this section shall be held for disposal to them."

SEC. 2. Section 12 (a) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"(a) It shall be the duty of the Administrator to facilitate the transfer of surplus property from one Government agency to other Government agencies for their own use and not for transfer or disposition; and the transfer of surplus property under this section shall be given priority over all other disposals provided for in this act, except disposals to veterans of property reserved exclusively for veterans under subsection (b) of section 16 of this act. The Administrator shall prescribe a reasonable time within which Government agencies shall exercise the priority provided by this subsection, but the time so fixed shall not exceed 20 days from the time public notice is given of the availability of the surplus property for disposal to Government agencies."

SEC. 3. Section 12 (c) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"(c) The disposal agency responsible for any such property shall transfer it to the Government agency acquiring it at the fair value of the property as fixed by the disposal agency, under regulations prescribed by the Administrator, unless transfer without reimbursement or transfer of funds is authorized under subsection (d) of this section."

SEC. 4. Section 12 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended by adding a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

"(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 34 (a) of this Act, no Government agency may transfer any property to any other Government agency without reimbursement or transfer of funds under authority of any law approved prior to June 22, 1944. Any disposal agency may transfer surplus property to a Government agency without reimbursement or transfer of funds whenever a transfer on such terms by the owning agency (by which such property was declared surplus) would be authorized by any law approved subsequent to June 21, 1944, to be made to the Government agency desiring such property."

SEC. 5. Section 13 (f) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"(f) The disposal of surplus property under this section to States and political subdivisions and instrumentalities thereof shall be given priority over all other dis-

posals of property provided for in this act, except transfers to Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16 and purchases made under subsection (e) of section 18: *Provided*, That the Adminisrtator may prescribe a reasonable time during which such priority shall be exercised."

SEC. 6. The last sentence of subsection (e) of section 18 thereof is hereby amended to read as follows: "The disposal of surplus property under this subsection shall be given priority immediately following transfers to other Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16. The provisions of subsection (c) of section 12 shall be applicable to purchases made under this subsection."

And to amend the title so as to read: "An act to amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944 with reference to veterans' preference, and for other purposes."

Mr. O'MAHONEY. Mr. President——

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Does the Senator from North Dakota yield to the Senator from Wyoming?

Mr. LANGER. I yield to the Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. Mr. President, I desire to ask for the immediate consideration of the House amendments to the veterans' surplus property bill, and, with the indulgence of the Senator from North Dakota, I wish to make a preliminary statement respecting the bill, so that Members of the Senate may know what the basis of the request is.

In January of this year, the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. MAYBANK], the Senator from New Mexico [Mr. CHAVEZ], and I introduced a bill, the purpose of which was to raise the preference of veterans in the disposal of surplus property. This measure was given extended consideration by the Senate Military Affairs subcommittee, which held hearings, and called before it representatives of all Government agencies involved, including the War Assets Administration.

A bill was passed by the Senate on Friday last effecting this very necessary and desirable reform in veterans' preference. I am happy to say that the House yesterday called the matter up for consideration and amended the Senate bill by adding some provisions which had been worked out by the House Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments, headed by Representative MANASCO, of Alabama, and yesterday the bill was passed with those amendments.

My request, therefore, Mr. President, is that the Senate shall proceed now to the consideration of amendments of the House to the Senate bill, and I shall ask that the Senate concur in the House amendments, in order that this very necessary reform may be effected without further delay. In view of the recess on the part of the House and the apparent disposition of some Members of the Senate not to be here during the next week, it is of utmost importance that this measure be enacted into law without going to conference. That is the reason why I have sought this opportunity to have the Senate agree to the House amendments.

Mr. WHITE. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. O'MAHONEY. I yield.

Mr. WHITE. I want to have an understanding of the parliamentary situation. This is a Senate bill which comes back from the House with House amendments?

Mr. O'MAHONEY. That is correct.

Mr. WHITE. And what the Senator is proposing to do is to ask that the Senate concur in the House amendments?

Mr. O'MAHONEY. Precisely.

Mr. WHITE. Have the House amendments been considered by the appropriate committee of the Senate?

Mr. O'MAHONEY. The House amendments have been discussed with members of the committee which has been in charge of the bill. I have, for example, consulted the Senator from West Virginia [Mr. REVERCOMB] and the Senator from Iowa [Mr. WILSON] this morning. The general subject has been before the committee.

Mr. WHITE. I wondered if the members of the committee are agreeable to the House amendments?

Mr. O'MAHONEY. It is my understanding that they are.

Mr. WHITE. I am particularly concerned to know whether the minority Members are agreeable to the House amendments.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. The Senator from West Virginia has already indicated to me his concurrence in the amendments.

The Senator from South Carolina [Mr. MAYBANK] has likewise agreed.

Mr. REVERCOMB. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. O'MAHONEY. I yield.

Mr. REVERCOMB. I notice one amendment which has been made with respect to direction to the head of the War Assets Administration who deals with the disposal of surplus property. The bill as passed by the Senate contained the direction that the head of the War Assets Administration "shall" set aside—using the direct and positive word "shall" certain goods for purchase by veterans. The House has changed the word "shall" to "may." I wish the able Senator from Wyoming would explain that for the benefit of the Senate, as he explained it to me, so that we may know that we are not surrendering a position which directs and commands the Administrator to set certain goods aside for veterans.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. I am happy the Senator from West Virginia has raised that question. As a matter of fact, it can be said that the word was actually not changed from "shall" to "may." The word "may" appeared in the bill as it was presented to our committee, and that same paragraph was included in the House bill. We made the change, and unfortunately I did not undertake to notify the House committee of the change that we had made from "may" to "shall." So that what has happened is merely that the House has agreed to the paragraph as we originally proposed it.

I have consulted the War Assets Administration and have been assured this morning over the telephone, and I understand that a letter to that effect is on the way, which I shall later include in the RECORD, that the War Assets Administration will administer this law as though the word were "shall," and I may also point out that if there should be any doubt upon that point it could easily be corrected by passage of a joint resolution.

Mr. McCLELLAN. Mr. President——

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MAYBANK in the chair). Does the Senator from Wyoming yield to the Senator from Arkansas?

Mr. O'MAHONEY. I yield.

Mr. McCLELLAN. I am very glad to have the explanations thus far presented respecting the changes made by the House. I think this is very important legislation, and that we ought to expedite its passage. I am very glad the Senator has brought it up at this time. I rose to seek information as to the changes the House has made. I am very anxious to see the measure passed. I regret the change from "shall" to "may." I think we should leave it "shall"; but if the House situation is now such that it is advisable to pass the legislation as the House amended it, very well, though I much prefer to have the word "shall" remain in the bill.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. As I said to the Senator from West Virginia, I am confident that the bill will be administered as though the word were "shall." I think the legislative intent is clear. The House did not change the word "shall" to "may." It merely acted upon the original language. The Senate changed the word "may" to "shall." The fact that the word "may" appears in the bill as it comes back to us is merely due to the fact that the change of the Senate was not specifically called to the attention of the House.

Mr. McCLELLAN. The Senator has satisfied himself, after the consultations he has had, that the interpretation or administration of the measure by the War Assets Administration will be as if the word were "shall"?

Mr. O'MAHONEY. Yes. I may say to the Senator that the purpose of this section is to direct the War Assets Administration to set aside an inventory of surplus property which shall be for exclusive disposal to veterans. It is the purpose of the War Assets Administration to do that.

Mr. McCLELLAN. I was very much interested that there should be no discretion, but that there should be a legislative directive.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. The War Assets Administration so understands it.

Mr. McCLELLAN. May I inquire of the Senator the effect of any other amendments?

Mr. O'MAHONEY. I shall be very happy to explain them.

The first amendment is to except real property from the provisions of the bill. As the Senate passed it the language read:

Disposals of surplus property to veterans under this section shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this act except transfers to Government agencies under section 12.

As amended, it reads:

Disposals of surplus property except real property—

There never was any intention to deal with real property. That is the first amendment.

The next amendment is the one to which I have just referred, involving the use of the word "may."

In section 16 (b) the exception of real property is again inserted.

The word "quantities" is used in the sentence:

In selecting any types or quantities of surplus property for disposal in accordance with the provisions of this subsection the Administrator shall give due consideration—

And so forth. That is not a vital change.

Mr. McCLELLAN. The Senator can assure us, then, that such amendments as have been adopted by the House do not strike down the force of the bill as passed by the Senate?

Mr. O'MAHONEY. No. In some instances the amendments of the House are decided improvements. I should like particularly to call attention to subsection (c) of section 16, which is the veterans' preference section which has been added by the House. It reads as follows:

The Administrator shall prescribe a reasonable time of not less than 15 days after public notice, during which property offered to veterans under this section shall be held for disposal to them.

That is a decided improvement upon the Senate bill, and I am happy that the House inserted it.

Mr. McCLELLAN. If the Senator will further yield, I wish to compliment him and other members of his committee who worked on this legislation. It is important legislation. It is needed. We know that the veterans have not been getting a fair break in the distribution and sale of surplus property. I am most happy that we have made this much progress, and I trust that these amendments will be agreed to.

Mr. OVERTON. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. O'MAHONEY. I yield.

Mr. OVERTON. I wish to add my congratulations to the able Senator from Wyoming and the other members of the committee for the successful manner in which this legislation has been undertaken. I know the difficulties which surround it. I assume that almost all Senators have had complaints from veterans with respect to their inability to obtain surplus property, of which Congress intended that they should have the benefit. I know that the Senator from Wyoming has worked assiduously in connection with this legislation, and that if he had had his way it would have been enacted sometime ago.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. The Senator is very kind.

Mr. President, I now wish to endeavor to secure the agreement of the Senate to concur in the amendments made by the House of Representatives to Senate bill 1757.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on concurring in the amendments of the House of Representatives.

The amendments were concurred in.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent to have printed at this point in the RECORD a full and detailed explanation of the various amendments.

There being no objection, the explanation was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

The following differences in substance between section 1 of the House amendment and section 1 of S. 1757 as passed by the Senate should be noted:

(a) The House amendment excludes real property from the classes of surplus property covered by the priority provided in section 16 of the Surplus Property Act. No comparable limitation was contained in S. 1757 as passed by the Senate. However, there was no intent to include real property among the classes of surplus property for which veterans should be given a priority.

(b) Under the House amendment the set-asides of surplus property for exclusive disposal to veterans are discretionary with the War Assets Administrator. Under S. 1757 as passed by the Senate such set-asides were mandatory. It should be pointed out, however, that as set forth in the letter of Director Donaldson, of War Assets Administration, dated April 19, 1946, the publication of lists of types and quantities of surplus property for exclusive disposal to veterans is mandatory. The War Assets Administration, therefore may be expected to administer the law as it was intended by the Senate.

(c) The House amendment provides a definite period of not less than 15 days after public notice during which property offered to veterans under section 16 shall be held for disposal to them. S. 1757, as passed by the Senate, merely directed the Administrator to make set-asides "for such period or periods of time as he may determine."

The following differences in substance between section 2 of the House amendment and section 2 of S. 1757 as passed by the Senate should be noted:

(a) S. 1757 as passed by the Senate did not limit Government agencies to the acquisition of surplus property for their own use and did not exclude such acquisition for transfer or disposition.

(b) S. 1757 as passed by the Senate did not provide for a maximum time limit after public notice within which Government agencies must exercise their priority under section 12 (a).

Section 3 of the House amendment amends section 12 (c) of the Surplus Property Act by limiting transfers between Government agencies without reimbursement or transfer of fund to cases authorized by subsection 12 (d), which is added by section 4 of the House amendment. The new subsection 12 (d) does not permit any Government agencies to transfer any property without reimbursement or transfer of funds unless such transfers without reimbursement or transfer of funds are authorized by laws approved subsequent to June 21, 1944. This provision would authorize transfers without reimbursement by the War and Navy Departments of hospitals and hospital equipment and suppiles to the Veterans' Administration as provided in the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, which was approved on that date.

No provisions comparable to those contained in section 3 and 4 of the House amendment were contained in S. 1757 as passed by the Senate.

Section 5 of the House amendment is substantially identical with the corresponding provisions of S. 1757 as passed by the Senate, except that the Senate-passed measure did not contain any specific provision with respect to a time limitation to be imposed for the exercise of the priority provided for States and political subdivisions and instrumentalities.

Section 6 of the House amendment is identical with the corresponding provision in S. 1757 as passed by the Senate.

WAR ASSETS ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, D. C., April 19, 1946.

Hon. JOSEPH C. O'MAHONEY,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR O'MAHONEY: In accordance with our telephone conversation this morning on the matter of a list of equipment for set-asides to veterans. I am happy to give you the following information:

We have carefully followed the progress of this legislation changing the rights of veterans to purchase surplus property.

Pursuant to our interpretation of the provision of section 16 (b) of S. 1757 reading "The Administrator shall from time to time cause to be compiled and widely publicized information as to the types and quantities of such surplus property which has or will become available within a given period of time for exclusive disposal to veterans in accordance with the provisions of this subsection," the Administrator shall publish periodically a list of the types and quantities of surplus property most in demand by veterans in order that they, as well as the general public, will know what tems are to be set aside for exclusive disposal to veterans.

We expect to have the original list ready for publication at the time the bill becomes a law and this list will be revised from time to time and full publicity given to all such revisions.

Very truly yours,
SCOTT W. DONALDSON,
Director, Veterans' Division.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. President, I also am tremendously interested in this piece of legislation.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. I know the Senator is.

Mr. LUCAS. I should like to know whether the Senator from Wyoming has any sort of guaranty or understanding with the War Assets Administration that it will administer this act in line with what the Senate and the House of Representatives understand to be the intent of the act.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. That is my understanding. I have communicated with the War Assets Administration, and I may say that on many occasions the committee, through its members and through its staff, have communicated with General Gregory and have found him ready at all times to cooperate.

Mr. LUCAS. I am happy to hear that statement from the distinguished Senator, because if there has been any one matter about which I have received a great deal of complaint, it has been the one concerning adequate distribution of surplus property so far as veterans are concerned. The veterans of the country have been given the run-around, so to speak, by the War Assets Administration.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. Mr. President, I think the Senator is not quite accurate in his statement.

Mr. LUCAS. If not by the War Assets Administration, then by whoever has been handling the matter.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. No; the Congress may not divest itself of some of the responsibility for what has happened. The situation is this: When the Surplus Property Act was enacted, the Congress endeavored to make provision for the distribution of surplus property in a manner which would take care of various matters. It provided, for example, that the Small War Plants Corporation should have the right to purchase surplus prop-

erty for distribution by itself. The Small War Plants Corporation, having been given such authority, and having conducted such purchases, and subsequently having undertaken to distribute the property to small businesses, frequently refused to grant a veterans' preference. A technical reading of the law would seem to indicate that the Small War Plants Corporation was in the right. The committee has now changed that policy, and there can be no further difficulty of that kind.

Mr. LUCAS. I appreciate what the Senator has said; but I have letters to sustain the position which I am taking. I do not know who is responsible for it, but veterans have been traveling all over the country in an attempt to ascertain the location of various articles on which they might have a right to bid. I know of one veteran who went to Granite City, then to Kansas City, then to Chicago, and finally landed back at Granite City, the point from which he started.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. And that fact was due largely to the provision of the law which I have described, and which is corrected in this bill. There was another provision of the law which gave Government agencies a primary preference.

Mr. LUCAS. I understand that.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. The shifting of surplus property from one agency to another was conducted in such a manner that the agencies themselves sometimes undertook to dispose of the property. Sometimes one agency secured surplus property without making any reimbursement for it. The amendment to the bill would prevent that taking place in the future. In the future such difficulties are not likely to arise. I have no doubt that others will.

Mr. LUCAS. I may say in conclusion to my good friend that I hope he will take a similar interest in my agricultural bill.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. I shall be very glad to do so.

Mr. President, in connection with the disposal of automotive equipment to veterans, I am pleased to be in a position to give an illustration of the readiness of the War Assets Administration to cooperate. General Gregory, the War Assets Administrator, has just advised me that he is completing arrangements to offer 5,300 surplus Army trucks at Port Hueneme, Calif., in the near future. These trucks are similar to the 600 recently offered for sale through a New York department store which led the Senator from North Dakota to request an investigation of veterans' preference in connection with surplus disposal. The staff of the Senate Surplus Property Subcommittee had previously investigated this sale and found that those trucks had been offered to veterans but had not been sold to veterans because they were crated and unassembled.

General Gregory tells me that the trucks he is about to offer for sale at Port Hueneme, Calif., are for the most part new trucks, what the Army called the 6 by 6 or the 6 by 4. As in the earlier cases, many of these trucks had been dismantled and crated for export. However, War Assets Administration has now uncrated and assembled them, and the trucks are ready to roll. It is believed that these trucks will be particularly useful to veterans who are engaged in farming, logging, and lumbering, and similar operations.

Instead of merely criticizing past mistakes, the Surplus Property Subcommittee has striven to match every criticism with a well-considered suggestion for improvement, for it has recognized the great complexity of the task committed to the War Assets Administration. In the case of the sale of the 600 trucks through the New York department store, 3 lessons are to be learned with respect to surplus property disposal.

The first lesson is that the War Assets Administration has not been offering certain types of critical goods to veterans on a sufficiently broad geographical basis before selling to dealers and the trade. This fact was pointed out to War Assets Administration, and War Assets Administration is now remedying that situation. For example, the new offering at Port Hueneme of 5,300 trucks will be made to the entire Pacific coast and to many of the Mountain States. Furthermore, the Port Hueneme sale will be the first of a series of Nation-wide motor-vehicle sales in all War Assets Administration regions.

I should like to point out that in this case a short telephone conversation with General Gregory, after the true facts had been established and called to my attention by the subcommittee staff, accomplished everything that could have been achieved by a formal Senate investigation, which, because of the pressure of urgent legislative business, could not have been held promptly and, therefore, would not have achieved the desired results in time.

Secondly, the sale of the 600 trucks confirms the necessity of raising the veterans' preference for surplus property as provided in this legislation.

It should be noted, I think, that Mr. Howard Bruce, of Baltimore, who recently completed a special study of surplus disposal for the President, heartily endorses the veterans' set-aside scheme. The final passage of this legislation, which has received careful attention for several months, will go far to assure a fair share of surplus property to veterans in all regions of the country.

The third lesson to be learned from the sale of the 600 trucks in New York is that it is unwise to generalize about surplus-property disposal. As Mr. Bruce pointed out in his recent report to the President, there are so many different types of surplus property involving such a multitude of problems and requiring so great an amount of flexibility in their handling that generalization becomes dangerous. For example, the 600 trucks admittedly were offered in too narrow a geographical area. A recent sale of photographic equipment in Baltimore, on the other hand, was offered too widely, with the result that after other priority claimants had finished buying, little merchandise was left to satisfy the veterans who attended the sale from all parts of the country. This situation would have been different if S. 1757 had then been on the books.

Mr. MAGNUSON. Mr. President, I wish to ask the Senator from Wyoming a very simple question. He probably can answer it.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. I believe I can answer the question if it is simple enough. [Laughter.]

Mr. MAGNUSON. Assume, for example, that I am a veteran and wish to purchase surplus property. I reside in Chicago. May I go to the War Assets Administration, under the provisions of this bill, or as they will be set up administratively, and receive a list of surplus property which will be available for purchase throughout the country, examine the list and ascertain what I may wish to purchase?

Mr. O'MAHONEY. That is one of the primary purposes of this legislation. It will provide an inventory of surplus property which veterans shall have the exclusive right to purchase. I may say, also, that we are endeavoring to include in that list not only automotive equipment, but photographic supplies and other articles of that nature which experience teaches us that veterans would like to have.

Mr. MAGNUSON. I understand that under the bill the veteran will also have the same preference rights that the Government agencies will have.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. To the kind of property which I have described, he will have a primary right.

Mr. President, I understand that consent has been granted to me to have printed in the RECORD a detailed description of the amendments.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The statement was ordered to be printed at a previous point in the RECORD.

REHABILITATION OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. TYDINGS submitted the following report:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 1610) to provide for the rehabilitation of the Philippine Islands, and for other purposes, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the House recede from its amendment numbered 24.

That the Senate recede from its disagreement to the amendments of the House numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144; and agree to the same.

And agree that the title be amended to read: "An Act for the rehabilitation of the Philippines."

M. E. TYDINGS,
CARL HAYDEN,
B. K. WHEELER,
A. H. VANDENBERG,
WARREN R. AUSTIN,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

C. JASPER BELL,
J. W. ROBINSON,
ED GOSSETT,
RICHARD J. WELCH,
W. STERLING COLE,
Managers on the Part of the House.

Mr. WHITE. Mr. President, has this report been signed by the minority members?

Mr. TYDINGS. It has been signed by all members. It is a unanimous report.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection to the present consideration of the report?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the report.

Mr. TAFT. Mr. President, as I understand, the Senate is only considering the report. It has not yet been agreed to.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct.

Mr. TAFT. We are agreeing to one amendment of the House which provides that no payments shall be made for damages to property in the Philippines until the Philippine government has approved the executive agreement contained in the trade agreement bill.

While I agree that the conferees have perhaps done the best they could do with regard to the amendment, I think that it is a most unfortunate provision. I do not believe that the payment by us for damages resulting from war, in which the Filipinos were engaged on our side, resulting in their receiving substantially as much as, or even less than what would have been received by persons in this country who were similarly involved, should be contingent upon the signing by the Filipinos of an executive agreement dealing with trade, which they may not wish to sign. In its effect, it is a compulsory provision requiring them to sign the trade agreement. I believe that they will sign the trade agreement, but, at the same time I believe that it is a great mistake for us to make this proposal contingent on the signing of the trade agreement. If there were any doubt about their signing the trade agreement I should seriously object to the conference report. Of course, in all probability it will be to their advantage to sign the trade agreement anyway, and I do not wish to hold up the approval of the conference report. However, I believe that the House should not have imposed any such condition. Moreover, I think it is unfortunate that it will stand on the record of history in the form of something to force the Filipinos into signing a trade agreement which they may subsequently say was signed under duress, or under some condition which they did not approve.

Mr. TYDINGS. Mr. President, I share completely the point of view of the Senator from Ohio. There are two things, however, which alleviate to some extent the apparent unfairness of the situation. The first is that all claims of $500 or less may be paid without waiting until the trade agreement has been signed. That will undoubtedly cover the great majority of the smaller claims which will be filled, and no delay will be experienced. Secondly, Mr. McNutt has told me that he has already begun to set up the commission, and that a great deal of preliminary work has been done, but obviously, with respect to the larger claims, there will elapse a couple of months before the machinery will be in such shape as to approve the claims in their final form. While there is an actual compulsion in accordance with what has been incorporated by the other House, even if the amendment had not been incorporated, the Filipinos would have adopted the agreement anyway. I am sorry that it is in the conference report. If the House were not now in recess I would be willing to go back and try to have the amendment removed, but I believe that in view of the critical condition of the natives in the Philippines, and the fact that the trade agreement bill will be approved by the Filipinos any way, I believe that the Senate should agree to the conference report in its present form.

Mr. LA FOLLETTE. Mr. President, I wish to subscribe to every word which has been uttered by the Senator from Ohio [Mr. TAFT.] When I learned of this situation I was very much aroused because it seemed to me, as I stated when the trade agreements bill was before the Senate a few days ago, that it contained many provisions which I considered to be very harsh. I felt then, as I feel now, that because of the time factor involved the Senate has had no real opportunity to exercise its full and free legislative powers in connection with the enactment of the bill. In my judgment, connecting up this relief bill with the trade act has absolutely no justification. We either owe and have an obligation to pay these damage claims or we have not. It seems to me that there is no logical reason or justice in providing that no claim over $500 may be paid unless until the Philippine government enters into the trade agreement provided for in the Trade Agreements Act.

I consider it to be very unfortunate that such a situation should confront us; but, on the other hand, I recognize that if we were to oppose this report and were successful in our opposition it would delay the payment of claims of those who perhaps may be in most dire straits and need the money more than others who are better situated. I wish, however, emphatically to place in the RECORD my strenuous objection to putting this pistol, so to speak, to the head of the people of the Philippine Islands, when I do not think it is necessary, but is entirely uncalled for, and I want to make my individual apologies to them for having found myself in this legislative predicament.

Mr. TYDINGS. Mr. President, I share completely the sentiments of the Senator from Wisconsin. I should like to make the additional point that as I understand, the House would not pass the Philippine rehabilitation bill, which went over there on the 3d of December, until the Senate acted on the trade bill. All the way through I think the House has been overly concerned about the fairness of the Senate's attitude on these matters. If it would not occasion additional delay, we would not be here with this report; but the House is in recess, and I think more good will come from this procedure than if we follow a different course at the expense of the Filipinos who need relief.

Mr. AUSTIN. Mr. President, I did not sign the report until a few minutes ago. I consented to the report with the definite understanding that the pistol was not effective and did not have anything to do with the matter, because the Philippine government was eager to have the agreement signed and the conference report signed. So the element of coercion was unnecessary, superfluous, and unfortunate. If we were not in the situation that the exigencies of the Philippine government are very great, I would feel that we ought not to accept the conference report with this element of coercion in it, but, under the circumstances, I shall act consistently with my signature of this morning.

Mr. TYDINGS. I move the adoption of the conference report.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GOSSETT in the chair). The question is on agreeing to the conference report.

The report was agreed to.

WAR DEPARTMENT CIVIL FUNCTIONS APPROPRIATIONS—CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. THOMAS of Oklahoma. Mr. President, I send to the desk the conference report on the War Department civil functions bill, and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The report will be read.

The legislative clerk read the report, as follows:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 5400) making appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1947, for civil functions administered by the War Department, and for other purposes, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its amendment numbered 4½.

Amendment numbered 2: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 2, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows: In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert "$110,125,250"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 3: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 3, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of the sum proposed by said amendment insert "$144,065,000"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 6: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 6, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of the sum named in said amendment insert "$750,000"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 8: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 8, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In line 6 of the matter inserted by said amendment, strike out the word "equal" and insert in lieu thereof the word "comparable"; and the Senate agree to the same.

The committee of conference report in disagreement amendments numbered 1, 4, 5, and 7.

ELMER THOMAS,
CARL HAYDEN,
JOHN H. OVERTON,
ELBERT D. THOMAS,
CHAN GURNEY,
C. WAYLAND BROOKS,
CLYDE M. REED,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

JOHN H. KERR,
GEORGE MAHON,
W. F. NORRELL,
JOE HENDRICKS,
MICHAEL J. KIRWAN,
FRANCIS CASE,
HARVE TIBBOTT,
Managers on the Part of the House.

[Public Law 375—79th Congress]

[Chapter 248—2d Session]

[S. 1757]

AN ACT

To amend the Surplus Property Act of 1944 with reference to veterans preference, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 16 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"DISPOSITIONS TO VETERANS

"Sec. 16. (a) The Administrator shall prescribe regulations to effectuate the objectives of this Act to aid veterans in the acquisition of surplus property, in appropriate quantities and types, to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. Disposals of surplus property (except real property) to veterans under this subsection shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this Act except transfers to Government agencies under section 12.

"(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12 of this Act, the Administrator may cause to be set aside or otherwise to be made available quantities and types of any surplus property, except real property, which he determines to be appropriate for exclusive disposal to veterans for their own personal use, and to enable them to establish and maintain their own small business, professional, or agricultural enterprises. The Administrator shall prescribe regulations designed to achieve the equitable distribution of such surplus property among veterans. In selecting any types or quantities of surplus property for disposal in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, the Administrator shall give due consideration to the availability of adequate facilities for and the costs of the distribution of such property. The Administrator shall from time to time cause to be compiled and widely publicized information as to the types and quantities of such surplus property which has or will become available within a given period of time for exclusive disposal to veterans in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

"(c) The Administrator shall prescribe a reasonable time of not less than 15 days after public notice during which property offered to veterans under this section shall be held for disposal to them."

Sec. 2. Section 12 (a) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"(a) It shall be the duty of the Administrator to facilitate the transfer of surplus property from one Government agency to other Government agencies for their own use and not for transfer or disposition; and the transfer of surplus property under this section shall be given priority over all other disposals provided for in this Act, except disposals to veterans of property reserved exclusively for veterans under

subsection (b) of section 16 of this Act. The Administrator shall prescribe a reasonable time within which Government agencies shall exercise the priority provided by this subsection, but the time so fixed shall not exceed twenty days from the time public notice is given of the availability of the surplus property for disposal to Government agencies."

SEC. 3. Section 12 (c) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"(c) The disposal agency responsible for any such property shall transfer it to the Government agency acquiring it at the fair value of the property as fixed by the disposal agency, under regulations prescribed by the Administrator, unless transfer without reimbursement or transfer of funds is authorized under subsection (d) of this section."

SEC. 4. Section 12 of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended by adding a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

"(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 34 (a) of this Act, no Government agency may transfer any property to any other Government agency without reimbursement or transfer of funds under authority of any law approved prior to June 22, 1944. Any disposal agency may transfer surplus property to a Government agency without reimbursement or transfer of funds whenever a transfer on such terms by the owning agency (by which such property was declared surplus) would be authorized by any law approved subsequent to June 21, 1944, to be made to the Government agency desiring such property."

SEC. 5. Section 13 (f) of the Surplus Property Act of 1944 is amended to read as follows:

"(f) The disposal of surplus property under this section to States and political subdivisions and instrumentalities thereof shall be given priority over all other disposals of property provided for in this Act, except transfers to Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16 and purchases made under subsection (e) of section 18: *Provided*, That the Administrator may prescribe a reasonable time during which such priority shall be exercised."

SEC. 6. The last sentence of subsection (e) of section 18 thereof is hereby amended to read as follows: "The disposal of surplus property under this subsection shall be given priority immediately following transfers to other Government agencies under section 12 and disposals to veterans under section 16. The provisions of subsection (c) of section 12 shall be applicable to purchases made under this subsection."

Approved May 3, 1946.